هكذا من الأصل



Maurice Saatchi

The ousted chairman talks about his future in advertising, **page 40**



12 pages of sport

Mike Gatting, bloodied but unbowed, with a double century, **Section 2**



The new Dietrich

Ute Lemper is bringing the Germany of the 1930s back on song, **page 15**

20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,141 MONDAY DECEMBER 19 1994

Referendums on bedrock issues

Aitken plan to woo back Tory voters

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A MANIFESTO commitment to put any future proposed constitutional changes to a referendum is being urged on John Major by a group of Cabinet ministers led by Jonathan Aitken, the Treasury Chief Secretary.

The proposed pledge would cover threatened domestic upheavals, such as Scottish devolution, as well as Britain's future relationship with continental Europe. Its backers see it as a way of rescuing the Government from its parlous political plight and of wrong-footing Labour, which is committed to sweeping constitutional changes without first asking the people in a referendum.

They want the Cabinet to meet soon in political session, without the presence of civil servants, so that the proposal can be aired fully.

The Aitken plan, which is understood to have the support of Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, John Redwood, the Welsh Secretary, and some prominent right-wing backbenchers, is also aimed at winning back former Conservative voters unsettled by the Government's apparent enthusiasm for "permanent revolution".

Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary and a one-nation Tory, appeared to hint at the idea yesterday in a BBC Television interview when he said that the case for "a referendum on fundamental constitutional issues" had advanced over the past year. Mr Rifkind, a former Scottish Secretary and MP for Edinburgh Pentlands, is understood to see the potential for undermining Labour's plans for a Scottish assembly.

However, the Prime Minister is likely to take some persuading to move beyond his present position of being prepared to offer a referendum on Europe only if the circumstances require it.

The pressure for a blanket guarantee of referendums on constitutional issues arose as a new poll suggested that Conservative MPs are strongly in favour of a plebiscite on Europe. A survey of 100 backbenchers by BBC Television's *On the Record* found that 62 wanted a popular vote on any substantial moves towards European integration. Asked about a single currency, the number in favour of a referendum rose to 72.

One highly placed source said last night that the policy would address the sense of insecurity in a fast-changing world that lay behind the collapse in Tory support. Such an approach would reassert the traditional Tory values of stability and continuity. But it would also leave scope for radical policies in areas privatisation or the economy.

One of Mr Aitken's supporters said last night: "What people want to hear is that mother and father are staying together and are not going to divorce. This will provide people with a sense of stability, which is lacking in the national political debate. Everybody feels everything is up for grabs and that is no way to run a government.

"Certain things — the monarchy, the constitution, the role of Parliament — do not need to change because they are the rock upon which things that do have to change can change. We would be saying to people, we will not change the shape of the house without asking you first."

Mr Aitken's supporters also said that widening the scope for referendums would safeguard ministers against Labour gibes that it was only considering one on Europe to calm its warring factions. That theme was taken up again yesterday by Tony Blair, the Labour leader, as he claimed that the Tories were performing another U-turn "because of internal questions".

Mr Blair appeared to go even further towards trying to outflank the Tories over a referendum on Europe. He said there was a strong case for one if the inter-governmental conference in 1996 were to propose big constitutional changes or if a single currency became a firm prospect.

"The important thing to recognise is that we have got to move — if we are moving towards further European integration — with popular consent. In other words, the days of this being decided by political elites is over."

Voters wary, page 2

Peter Riddell

"The Balfour disintegration has ominous echoes for John Major, especially now that discontent has spread to the Cabinet" .....Page 16

MICHAEL POWELL



A 12ft-high bronze statue of Sir Isaac Newton by Sir Eduardo Paolozzi is to be erected in the forecourt of the new British Library in St Pancras, central London (writes Dalya Alberge). It will be the first image that visitors catch as they enter the main gate of a building described last summer by the Heritage Select Committee as one of the ugliest in the world.

The artist, 70, a Scot of Italian descent who made his name in the 1950s as a pop artist, was inspired by William Blake's image of Newton, seated and bending forward to measure the immensity of the universe with a pair of dividers. The statue, cast by the Morris Singer Foundry in Basingstoke, has been funded with £175,000 from the Foundation for Sport and the Arts, which was established by the Littlewood Pools companies three years ago.

Yeltsin rejects Chechen offer of peace talks



Anatol Lieven, one of the few correspondents still in Grozny, meets the Russian soldiers on the front line and describes the defiant Chechens' nights of fear in shelters

THE Kremlin last night rejected the latest offer of President Dudayev, the Chechen nationalist leader, to negotiate an end to the Chechenia crisis.

The rebel leader had sent a telegram to President Yeltsin, agreeing to meet Nikolai Yegorov, the Russian Deputy Prime Minister in charge of nationalities, for talks aimed at avoiding an all-out war with Russian troops. But as Russian planes bombed targets across the breakaway republic, he made clear that he was in no mood to compromise.

Over the weekend Russian troops opened fire on a convoy of refugees leaving Chechenia, killing at least nine people, including four women. The incident happened inside the Ingush border with Chechenia as a convoy of 10 cars passed through a Russian checkpoint near the village of Nisterovskaya.

After repeated Russian broadcasts warning that bombardment was imminent, many citizens of Grozny spent Saturday night in their cellars. Twenty women from a block of flats near our hotel told us that they and their husbands are the last of 150 people who used to live there.

Most of the women in the improvised shelter were local Russians. They said that they had nowhere to go. One told me: "If we left, the marauders would break into our flats and steal everything that we have worked for." She said four flats had been broken into in her block in the past week.

On Saturday, three Chechens caught burgling a flat were dragged before a crowd in front of the presidential palace and beaten before being taken away to what a bystander claimed would be the Islamic punishment of having their right hands chopped off.

The most cheerful woman in our shelter was also the oldest. Bustling in with a basket of food under her arms Olga Pavlovna, 93, a former librarian, said: "Well, well, my dears, I lived through the Great Patriotic War and here I am in a bomb shelter again."

She added that unlike many Russians, she has no intention of leaving: "This is my second homeland: I have lived here for 45 years. The Chechens are wonderful people, though it is true they get excited easily and you have to know how to talk with them. Boris Nikolaivich (Yeltsin) does not know how to do that."

Yesterday began with the Chechen leader telling President Yeltsin in a telegram: "I inform you that I am ready to receive your plenipoteniary".Mr Yeltsin had sent Mr Yegorov and Sergei Stepashin, the counter-intelligence chief, to Mozdok, the headquarters of Russian forces.

"If today the appropriate document on ceasefire and handing in weapons is signed with your personal participation I will consider this as proof of your serious intention to normalise the situation, restore peace and calm in Chechenia for the good of all Russian peoples," he said.

The offer was seen as an attempt by the Kremlin to avoid war, which two out of three Russians have said they oppose. However, the two sides are still far apart. Russia wants the Chechens to lay down their arms and recog-

Continued on page 9, col 1

Moscow fears, page 9

Carter flies on peace bid

Jimmy Carter, the former American President, began a peace mission in the former Yugoslavia yesterday in an optimistic mood despite criticisms of his tour and claims that he was naive .....Page 8

Parking ban

Office parking spaces are to be reduced to discourage car commuters, says a Government report on road congestion .....Page 6

Pilot killed

The pilot of a US helicopter that strayed into North Korean airspace was killed when his aircraft came down .....Page 5

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Labour spokesman in new school row

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour frontbench became embroiled in a second row over selective education last night after it emerged that the party's spokesman for schools sends his son to a state secondary which allegedly selects pupils and is seeking to become a grammar.

The chairman of governors at the Liverpool Blue Coat School admitted the school — which was the top ranking comprehensive in this year's national GCSE league tables and educates the son of Peter Kilfoyle MP, the shadow spokesman — is not a "true comprehensive".

The 750-pupil school at Wavertree wants to bring back the 11-Plus after the Education Department responded to complaints that its admissions procedures — based on interviews with prospective parents and boys and scrutiny of their primary school records — amounted to "covert selection".

The system, which accepts pupils from outside the area, is similar to that followed by London Oratory, the Catholic grant-maintained secondary in West London chosen this month by Tony Blair for his eldest son. Labour opposes academic selection at 11 and opting out, and wants to abolish grammar schools.

Peter Healey, chairman of the Blue Coat governors, said the school was being forced to seek grammar school status after Whitehall said it should either stop choosing pupils on the basis of interviews or apply to become selective. The governing body is expected to confirm its decision to apply to change its character and introduce an entrance exam at a meeting tonight. The school is also attended by the son of Jane Kennedy, Labour MP for Liverpool Broadgreen.

Paul Clein, a Liberal Democrat councillor, with a son at the school, said: "For national Labour politicians the message in education is clear: 'Do as I say, not as I do'."

Mr Kilfoyle said: "I'm in a delicate position as I have to consider my son's position at the school as well as my politics. I do not want to turn his future into a political football".

Blair interview, page 2

Angry QE2 passengers will sue

HOLIDAYMAKERS who were turned away from a dream cruise on the QE2 at the last minute yesterday formed an action group to sue the ship's owners. Hundreds of peoplehad been left behind when the liner sailed for New York because their

Steene: "We should have been warned"

cabins were not ready after a £30 million refit.

David Steene, a solicitor from Elstree, Herts, said: "Cunard must have known the boat would not be ready and they should have told us last week" ..... Page 3

Shops praying for late festive rush

BY LUCY BERRINGTON

RETAILERS are pinning their hopes on Christmas coming later than ever this year as many reported continued caution on the part of festive shoppers yesterday.

A spokesman for the Confederation of British Industry said the delay in buying was part of a longer trend. "Anecdotal evidence suggests the main rush of Christmas sales is getting later year by year. Consumers were pretty late in buying last year. The retail trade is putting its hopes on the-before-Christmas day."

Stores were yesterday packed with shoppers, but many were still afflicted by the "feel-poor" factor. "Christmas really only started a couple of weeks ago, a bit late, and took off in the last few days," said Tom Logan, merchandise director of Liberty in Regent Street, London, which was open yesterday. "But people are selecting and buying quite carefully."

Retailers attributed the widespread postponement of festive shopping sprees to the gloomy legacy of the recession and feared spending was further depressed by the mini-Budget this month and the rise in interest rates.

However, a spokesman for Harrods, open for only the second Sunday in its history, predicted improvements at most stores. "People are going to be very hard pushed not to celebrate Christmas in the way to which they've become accustomed.

"They might not buy the washing machine they've been promising themsleves but they will still want presents and turkeys. Christmas is unique as far as trading patterns are concerned."

Most store managers were unforthcoming yesterday about their Christmas performance but agreed that business was belatedly picking up. In particular sales of heavy winter clothing, until last week a casualty of mild weather, had accelerated.

"Like most other retailers we were a bit affected by the warm weather earlier in the season, but you can always rely on Christmas," said a spokesman for Marks and Spencer.

Glamour and kitsch, page 6

Aids Santa who was given the sack sues for his job

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

A FORMER Santa Claus is suing Macy's department store in New York for $3 million (£1.9 million), claiming that he lost his seasonal job distributing toys because he has Aids.

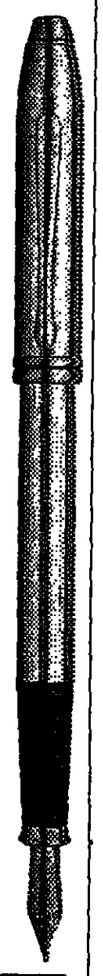
Mark Woodley, a 45-year-old architect, intends to prove that, despite his repeated applications, the world's largest department store has refused to rehire him as a Santa since 1989 because he admitted that he was taking AZT, the Aids medication. "You can't get Aids by sitting on Santa's lap," he insists. "If it was transmitted that easily, everyone would have it."

Macy's has refused to comment except to say that "we absolutely do not discriminate". The store has previously said that it was concerned for children's safety because Mr Woodley was also taking Prozac, an anti-depressant that may cause sharp mood swings. In the past officials at Macy's have said that Mr Woodley was offered a better-paid job supervising other Santas but refused it.

"I was one of the best Santas they had when I was there," Mr Woodley said. He first applied for the job because he thought it would help him to come to terms with a friend's death from Aids. He was HIV-positive when he was first employed by Macy's, but now has Aids. His action had to be dropped in 1992 because Macy's declared bankruptcy, effectively delaying legal action. He has now decided to proceed with the case because the store has been acquired by Federated Department Stores.

Despite Macy's ban, he still dons his red costume and beard at parties for HIV-infected children. "They don't let Aids stop them," he says. "They live their lives fully."

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Anglo-Irish talks to resume with new Dublin leader



Bruton: softened position on arms

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR is expected to meet John Bruton, Ireland's new Prime Minister, tomorrow to restart discussions on the Anglo-Irish framework document on the future of Northern Ireland.

The meeting in London comes after a minister in Ireland's new coalition yesterday criticised the British Government for demanding the removal of IRA weapons as a condition for Sinn Fein entering full-scale talks.

Proinsias De Rossa, the leader of the small Democratic Left party, who is Social Welfare Minister, underlined signs of growing differences between London and Dublin over the arms issue when he said it was a mistake to concentrate on the decommissioning or surrender of arms. He said: "What's important is that [guns] remain silent and unused. We have to create the political conditions to ensure those guns remain silent and unused."

Mr Bruton, who insisted while he was in Opposition that terrorists must hand over their weapons, softened his position yesterday when he said he would be approaching the question sensitively. In an interview with the Dublin *Sunday Tribune*, he said: "I will be probing that issue with [John Major]. I will also be probing the issue with [Sinn Fein]. I would like to hear the attitude of the people concerned before I decide."

Mr Major insisted in Belfast last week that the Government's talks with Sinn Fein could not move beyond the exploratory stage until the IRA's weapons were removed from terrorists' hands. However, he said he did not mind whether the weapons were surrendered or decommissioned.

Tomorrow, the two Prime Ministers will want to re-establish the talks' momentum after Anglo-Irish relations were put on hold during Dublin's five-week political crisis.

Albert Reynolds, the former Taoiseach, claimed at the weekend that in his negotiations over the document Britain had accepted the contentious principle of cross-border bodies with executive powers. In an interview on BBC Radio Ulster, Mr Reynolds said it had been accepted that an internal solution in Northern Ireland was a non-runner.

He said: "We have made a lot of progress in relation to an all-Ireland body that would be drawn from both the parliament in Belfast and the parliament in Dublin to monitor the co-operation North and South, which is in the interests of both communities and both parts of Ireland."

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, rebuked Mr Reynolds for breaking the confidentiality of negotiations, and said the framework document would not propose joint authority over Northern Ireland between London and Dublin.

Sir Patrick added: "What is essential to remember is that, if the talks process resumes as a result of a joint framework document, then the results will be put to the people of Northern Ireland in a referendum. So I can't say more without breaking the confidentiality agreement which I thought we had with Mr Reynolds."

Negotiations on the framework document have been held up because of differences on such areas. London has called for the amendment of articles 2 and 3 of the Irish constitution which lay claim to Northern Ireland. In return, Dublin has called for "balanced constitutional change", which means that it wants concessions from Britain on cross-border bodies.

☐ Two men were in hospital last night after two of the most serious punishment beatings by suspected paramilitaries since the IRA and loyalist ceasefires.

In the first attack, a 52-year-old man suffered broken arms and bruised legs when three armed men beat him with sticks in a house on the nationalist Creggan estate in Londonderry at 7pm on Saturday. The paramilitaries ordered three adults and two children out of the house before beating the victim.

Just over three hours later, a 36-year-old man was beaten with iron bars in the basement of a house in the nationalist New Lodge area of north Belfast. He is in intensive care with multiple fractures to his arms and legs.

☐ Police and customs men have seized one of Northern Ireland's largest hauls of cannabis resin. Four men and a woman were being questioned yesterday after raids on a Roman Catholic district of south Belfast in which drugs with a street value of £250,000 were found in a car. Detectives believe the drugs were smuggled from Spain.

Rape victims may be asked to return cash awards

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

COMPENSATION payments to victims of crimes such as rape and assault may have to be returned if the Government fails to reverse a court ruling that its compensation scheme is unlawful.

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority has written to crime victims warning them that its widely criticised tariff compensation scheme is under review by the courts. If the scheme is withdrawn, and an award is then reassessed under the old scheme at a lower level, the victim may be required to pay the balance to the authority.

The tariff scheme, under which awards are assessed according to a table, with no account taken of loss of earnings or medical needs, was challenged in the High Court recently and was held to be unlawful. It was brought in without reference to Parliament, ignoring a previous government commitment to give statutory backing to the old scheme.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, is appealing to the House of Lords against the ruling. Pending the outcome, the tariff scheme is continuing to operate.

The group Women Against Rape has protested about the possible reassessment of compensation. It says: "Compensation offers the victim some social recognition of what they have been through. This vital moral support for those who have suffered criminal violence is completley undermined when the victim is told that they are being offered money but may later be asked to repay it."

A further insult, the group says, is that the letters to victims fail to say that, if the scheme is held unlawful, they will be obliged to ask for their award to be reassessed. It will not be done automatically.

☐ The Law Society claims today that government plans to ration legal aid will lead to a form of lottery, with access to the courts depending on where a person lives. Charles Elly, president of the society, which represents 70,000 solicitors in England and Wales, also says that legal aid could be cut from certain kinds of cases, such as those which challenge government decisions, under the guise of giving priority to "bread and butter" cases.

"Legal aid underpins our system of justice. It cannot be turned into a mere discretionary scheme, granted or refused at a whim," he says.

The Law Society comments are contained in a response to a recent pamphlet on legal aid from the Social Market Foundation, which is expected to provide the basis of a consultation paper from the Lord Chancellor next year. At the core of the proposals is a system to limit legal aid by setting up a network of fundholders who would control the funding if legal aid in a particular area. These fundholders are most likely to be the area legal aid committee, or a law firm which does legal aid.

Mr Elly says: "Cash-limiting would mean that whether you got legal aid depended on where you lived and when you applied, rather than on the needs of your case. What is worse, it could mean legal aid would be cut off from cases involving a challenge to the Government."

The society says the Social Market Foundation pamphlet ignores the fact that the increase in legal aid over the past 15 years has resulted from deliberate government policy. The annual bill now stands at about £1,000 million, but for the second year running is likely be about £70 million less than was originally estimated.

The society says: "Cash-limiting would profoundly change the very nature of the legal aid scheme. Legal aid would be turned into a lottery, as different areas ran out of money at different times. Legal aid might be available in Manchester, but not in Liverpool. Areas might have to change their policies during the course of a year."

Blair says voters are still wary of Labour

BY NICHOLAS WOOD
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE British people are still wary of Labour, Tony Blair said yesterday as he made clear that his party's spectacular victory in the Dudley by-election would not deflect him from pursuing painful internal reforms.

Labour had much work to do to rebuild its "bond of trust" with the electorate and would not be able to duck difficult decisions, such as scrapping the Clause Four commitment to nationalisation, because of its recent resurgence. The Clause Four debate was seen by the public as a symbol of Labour's readiness to adapt to the modern world. Mr Blair indicated, as he insisted that he was "utterly uncomplacent" about the by-election swing to Labour in Dudley West last week.

Speaking on BBC Television's *Breakfast with Frost*, the Labour leader said: "If you were to ask the public how they would summarise the political situation, they would say 'We are disaffected with the Tories ... but we need to be sure of Labour' ... There is a long way to go in electoral terms. We have got to make the people sure of today's Labour Party."

SIMON WALKER



Tony Blair on *Breakfast with Frost*: "utterly uncomplacent" after Dudley win

Major's former council colleagues 'dismayed' at rejection from No 10

BY ANDREW PIERCE

JOHN MAJOR, who returned to Brixton for a sentimental party political broadcast in the 1992 election campaign, has turned his back on the place where he served his political apprenticeship. The Prime Minister, who first deployed the soapbox as a Lambeth councillor in the early 1970s, has astonished his former Tory colleagues by refusing to become patron of their new fundraising organisation.

It was Mr Major who inspired the Friends of Lambeth Tories when he attended a party at Lambeth town hall for the retirement of two former council colleagues. Although sterling had been bundled out of the ERM earlier the same day, the Prime Minister lingered for a couple of hours reminiscing with his former colleagues. Lambeth Conservatives decided to set up the Friends organisation to bring together its local luminaries, who include Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare.

Hugh Jones, leader of the Tory group on Lambeth council, said: "We wrote to John Major to ask him to be our patron. We felt sure he would agree. It is only an honorary title. We were surprised and dismayed when the answer came back. It was no."

Jonathan Hill, Mr Major's outgoing political secretary, wrote a short note saying the Prime Minister did not have the time to take up the position. "It's rather pathetic politicking by Downing Street. Someone obviously doesn't like us," Mr Jones said.

Number 10 was reportedly not impressed by reports in the local election campaign this year that Lambeth Tories did not want their most famous son to grace the borough with his presence. They feared that the Prime Minister would have an adverse effect on their electoral fortunes.

Mr Jones said: "We intend to have two or three social events a year which, of course, the Prime Minister would be invited to attend. Everyone who has been associated with us would be invited. It would be a pleasant social occasion and hopefully raise money for the party. Of course we would have been delighted if the Prime Minister had come."

After Mr Major's rejection, the Friends of Lambeth Tories are considering another tack. They are thinking of inviting to be their patron the Cabinet member who twice failed to be elected as MP for Lambeth Central — Jeremy Hanley, the party chairman.

Jail chiefs investigate Hindley interview

Prison officials began an investigation yesterday into how Myra Hindley, the Moors murderer, gave an interview to a journalist in spite of Home Office refusals to let her talk to newspapers. Hindley, 52, said in the interview at Cookham Wood Prison in Kent: "I think it would have solved a lot of problems for everybody if I'd been hanged for what I did. But I did not, and now I cling to life and I believe I deserve another chance at it."

Prison sources said no official facilities had been granted for Lesley White of *The Sunday Times* to talk to Hindley. The interview took place shortly before Hindley was told that she faces the rest of her life in prison.

Hurd in Gibraltar talks

Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, will meet Javier Solana, the Spanish Foreign Minister, today in a move aimed at heading off a crisis over the disputed British colony of Gibraltar. The meeting comes amid increased tension over checks imposed by Madrid on people crossing the border between Spain and the Rock, which have caused eight-hour delays and damaged the colony's business.

Interflora says sorry

Interflora apologised yesterday for sending hundreds of messages to dead people suggesting they send flowers for Christmas. The company has received 350 protests from people whose dead relatives were on a mailing list that should have been deleted. The company has brought in eight bereavement counsellors to help distressed relatives and some of their 150 staff who were also upset.

Gay protest at cathedral

A group of homosexual protesters was ejected from Guildford Cathedral yesterday after disrupting an inauguration service for the Bishop of Guildford, the Rt Rev John Gladwin. Demonstrators from the gay rights group Outrage waved banners in front of the congregation. Outrage said the protest was to highlight the anti-homosexual stance of the Church of England. There were no arrests.

NUT rethinks test ban

The National Union of Teachers is expected to announce tomorrow that it will consult members on softening its boycott of national curriculum tests for pupils aged 7, 11 and 14. The union fears Gillian Shephard's conciliatory approach has outflanked it in winning public support.

☐ A levels must be reformed to stop sixth formers giving up science, the Engineering Council says. Education, page 34

Trawler battle continues

Ministers arrive in Brussels today to try to prevent Spanish trawlers being allowed to operate in heavily exploited fishing grounds stretching from Oban to Newquay and including the entire Irish Sea. Britain has few allies in the negotiations and Spain has threatened to block the entry of Austria, Finland and Sweden to the European Union next year if it does not get its way.

Tributes to Lord Pitt



Senior Labour party figures yesterday paid tribute to Lord Pitt, left, one of the first blacks to figure prominently in British political life, who has died aged 81. Tony Blair, the Labour leader, said he had been "a tireless campaigner on racial and other important issues". Lord Healey, a former Chancellor, said the Grenada-born doctor was "a man of great ability".

Obituary, page 19

Hitwoman for sentence

A Maori woman who became a contract killer and shot dead a London businessman in a hospital corridor will be sentenced at the Old Bailey this week. Te Rangimaria Ngarimu, 27, was promised £7,000 by two men who wanted Graeme Woodhatch, head of their roofing business, dead. Paul Tubbs, 34, and Deith Bridges, 21, have both received life sentences for the murder.

Wildlife sites named

Three Scottish wildlife sites were yesterday classified as Special Protection Areas. The sites are Mingulay and Berneray in the Western Isles, Fair Isle, west of the Shetlands, and Marwick Head on the Orkney mainland. They support populations of rare and migratory birds including fulmar, kittiwake, guillemot, razorbill and the Fair Isle wren. Other sites are being considered.

Straw calls for media ruling on lottery win

BY KATE ALDERSON

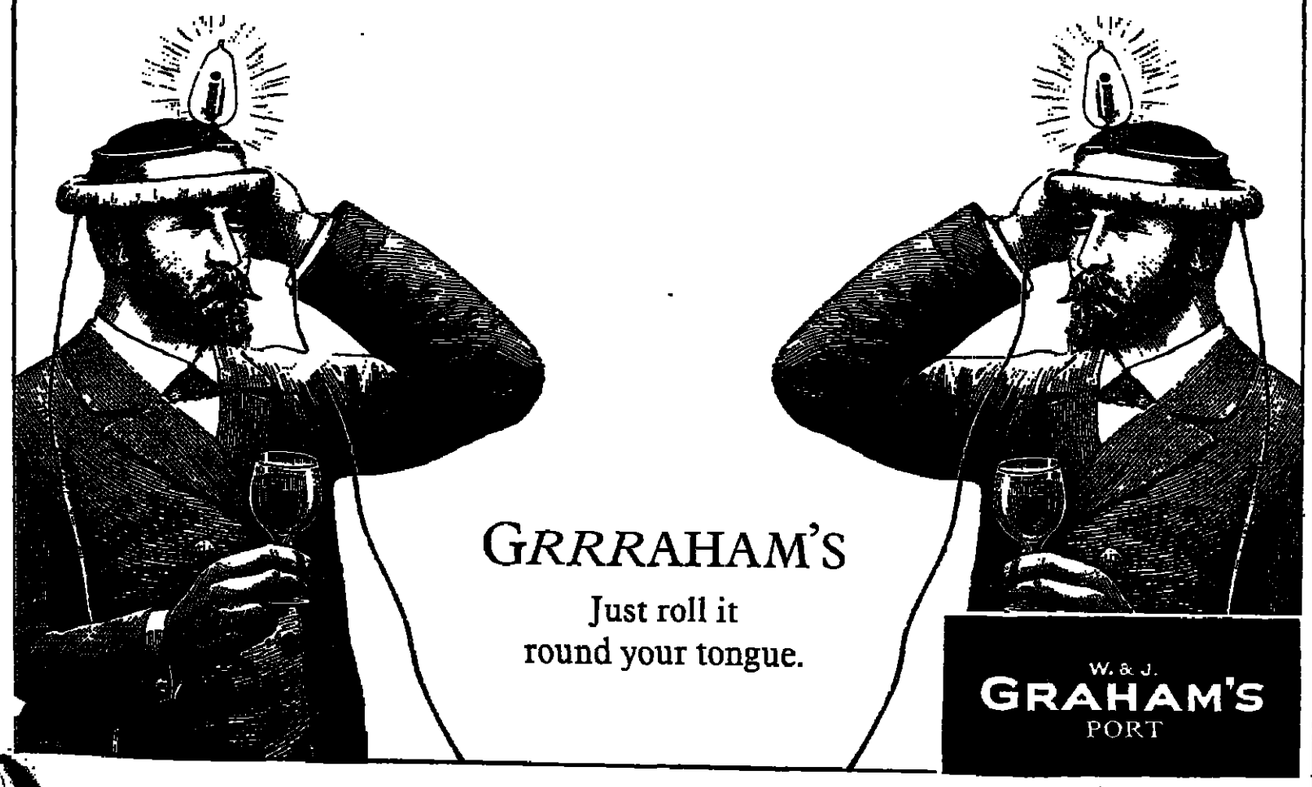
THE Press Complaints Commission will today receive a complaint from the Shadow Home Secretary about two newspapers which named the £17.8 million National Lottery winner.

Jack Straw called on the watchdog to issue "clear guidance on privacy". He said: "If they fail to do so, it will simply hasten the day there are very stringent privacy laws."

The jackpot winner lives in Mr Straw's Blackburn, Lancashire, constituency. The MP said yesterday: "The behaviour of the *News of the World* and *Yorkshire on Sunday* is in a different league of irresponsibility from any of the other newspapers."

The *News of the World*'s justification for publishing the winner's name was "the flimsiest and most cynical excuse ever". The newspaper printed seven photographs of the man, including wedding pictures. A leading article said: "... we believe everyone who enters this exciting game of chance has a right to know who wins. That knowledge is NEWS — and news is our business."

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'It was like a floating building site. Instead of boarding passes they should have given out hard hats'

QE2 passengers 'bumped off' ship aim to sue Cunard

BY LIN JENKINS

PASSENGERS booked on a pre-Christmas cruise aboard the *QE2* who were left high and dry on the quayside when the ship sailed on Saturday night have formed an action group to sue Cunard.

The ship slipped her moorings at Southampton six hours late with workmen still finishing plumbing in the cabins after a £30 million refit. Of the 1,050 passengers who had booked and paid for the five-day Atlantic crossing, 450 were left behind. Among them were 37 Americans who had flown in, some of them on Concorde, to sail home.

Some of the passengers who were allowed to stay on board spent the first night of their luxury trip without a cabin, although Cunard said that they had all been allocated cabins by 3.30am yesterday. They had boarded to find workmen still laying carpets, tools littering the ship and about a hundred cabins not plumbed in.

Three hundred passengers had been warned in advance not to turn up, but Cunard did not know until the last minute exactly how many could be accommodated, and those on board were offered a package to be "bumped off" the ship: 160 returned to the quayside.

Yesterday some of those put up in hotels by Cunard formed an action group to sue the company for damages, claiming that they had had well-laid Christmas plans and lifetime dreams shattered.

The company offered those who agreed not to sail a full refund, a free transatlantic cruise next year, with £250 to spend on board, overnight accommodation and their fares home.

David Steene, a solicitor from Elstree, Hertfordshire, who is heading the action group, said he had paid £19,000 for the holiday with his wife Dianne and their three children. On board he had found people crying, fighting with staff and refusing to go home.

"There were cabins which were flooded with no carpets or beds in them. The theatre was filled with matresses, pillows and blankets and they were still laying carpets on the main stairway.

"There were electrical generators in the children's nursery and the library was packed full of workmen's tools. It was like a floating building site. Instead of handing out boarding passes they should have been giving out hard hats to the passengers."

He added that Cunard must have known the ship would not be ready and should have warned passengers last week. "I don't envy the people who have sailed on the boat. It certainly won't be a luxury cruise for them. Most of the passengers I have spoken to have very special reasons to be on that boat. They may have gone for a ruby anniversary or a honeymoon. A cruise on the *QE2* is a one-off and they cannot just refund our tickets and get rid of us."

Dorothy Vincent, a retired teacher from Scottsdale, Arizona, said: "This really was my dream. I always said that when I finished my teaching career I would reward myself with a cruise on the *QE2*. I really am disenchanted with the way we were treated. It was absolute pandemonium on the dockside." A representative for the group of 37 Americans, who were all turned away, said: "We will never travel on the *QE2* again."

David Verlee, 57, a surgeon from Michigan, said: "Cunard has offered a free trip on the *QE2* next year, but at the moment that is the last thing we want." He said his group, who flew over on Concorde a week ago, suspected Cunard knew well in advance they would not be able to sail.

"Surely it was obvious that the rooms were not going to be ready. It looked as though work on the cabins had barely even started. We have paid thousands of pounds for our voyage and we all feel disappointed and angry."

James Ellis, an accountant, and his wife Kelley, who is seven months' pregnant, telephoned Cunard the day before the cruise because they had heard there would be a delay. They said they were assured there would be no problem and that they should report on time. Mr Ellis, 28, who was returning to Minneapolis, said: "It has been a terrible 24 hours and I want to put this disaster behind me."

Eric Flounders, spokesman for Cunard, said 300 passengers were warned in advance not to turn up at Southampton, but the others were not because the company did not know how many cabins would be ready by the time she sailed. Mr Flounders said nobody had been forced not to sail. Each passenger had been made the offer in writing when it became clear there were not enough cabins for all. Around 80 people knew when the ship sailed that they had not been allocated a finished cabin.

Those who had been told not to turn up were those passengers booked into cabins in which work would not be completed in time. He said: "The passengers would have been inconvenienced for a good few hours and rather than have them go through that we made them the offer. The remaining ones embarked and were accommodated in cabins by the middle of the night."

Mr Flounders said that furnishings stored in the theatre were put into cabins during the night and that the library was clear of builders' debris.

He said it was always planned that workmen would be on board until New York to complete the work and that no one company was responsible for the delay. "The timescale was not over-optimistic. These are specialised companies and when they tender for the work and give a timescale it is reasonable for them to be expected to do it."

One firm which carried out plumbing work on the *QE2*'s bathrooms admitted its contract on the ship had not been completed on time. Grahman Jones, the general manager of Trimline Ltd, based in Southampton, said work on 20 of the bathrooms would have to be finished in mid-Atlantic.

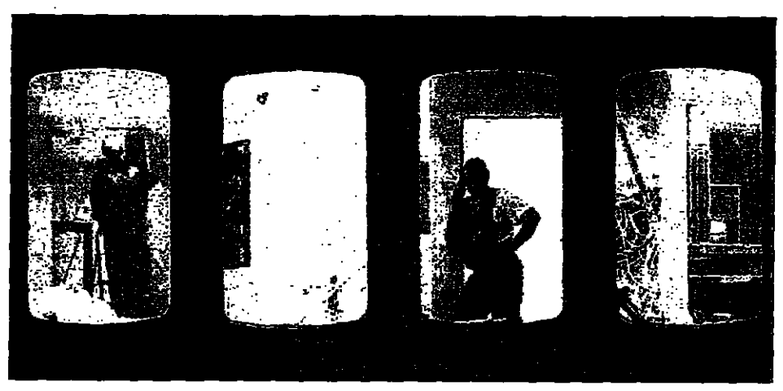
Mr Jones said he regretted the delay but their part of the contract, which was started in July this year, would be a "few days late. We have 20 bathrooms to finish between here and New York.

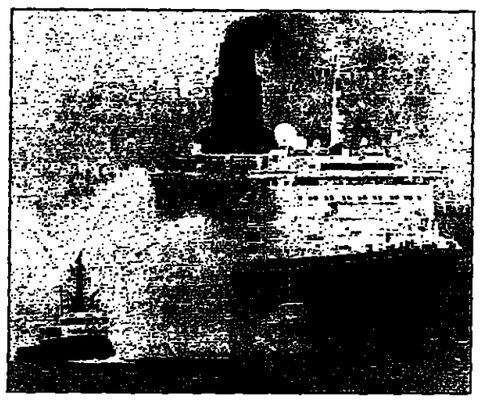
"We will fulfil our commitments to the contract — albeit a few days late. This was a huge contract and the logistics of the job have to be appreciated."

JAMES CHEADLE



A young girl waits with her sleeping sister to hear if she will be sailing. She was one of the unlucky ones, left behind as work continued





The ship, launched by the Queen in 1967, has encountered problems before:
- **A bomb threat in 1972 had four commandos parachuting into the sea to check for explosives.**
- **In 1973 it was reported that Col Gaddafi of Libya had sent submarines to try to sink her.**
- **In May 1987, after a £110 million refit in Germany, cabins flooded, air-conditioning failed, swimming pools were empty and many facilities were out of order.**
- **In 1988, the ship returned to Germany for new propellers to make her more efficient.**
- **In August 1992 the liner struck a rock off Massachusetts, causing a 200ft dent below the waterline. The incident cost Cunard an estimated £32 million.**
- **In October 1993, 50 passengers were injured when the ship was hit by a freak wave off Cornwall.**

Europe court acts to cut Bulger killers' sentences

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE sentences on the killers of James Bulger could be cut after a European court ruling due today on detaining young murderers. The decision could overturn an announcement by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, that the boys should serve 15 years.

The unanimous decision by the 18 members of the European Commission of Human Rights, expected to be published today, will conclude that when murderers under 18 are sentenced to be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure, the length of the sentence should not be seen as punitive but preventive.

Under the ruling, such a term would be not be seen as a life sentence. A Home Secretary would not be able to increase the sentence recommended by a judge and the executive would not have the right to determine sentences.

Jon Venables and Robert Thompson were 11 when they were sentenced in November last year to be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure for murdering two-year-old James. The trial judge recommended eight years. In July Mr Howard announced that the boys would be held for at least 15 years. Under the commission's decision Mr Howard would not be able to enforce that increase.

The boys' lawyers have already indicated that they will go to the High Court and to Strasbourg to challenge Mr Howard's handling of the case. The commission is expected to announce shortly that it will hear the case.

Yesterday a spokesman for the Home Office acknowledged that officials had received details of the decision, which covers the cases of Prem Singh and Abed Hussain, who were 15 and 16 when convicted of murder. He refused to reveal the decision and said it was being studied. Campaigners for Singh, now 37, and Hussain, 32, said that the Home Office had already refused to come to a friendly settlement and that the case would be heading for a hearing at the Court of Human Rights next year. If, as expected, the decision is upheld there, the Home Office would have to review sentencing on 300 to 400 young offenders.

Yesterday one legal expert said: "If Hussain and Singh win, it is almost inevitable the Bulger boys will win." Campaigners for Singh and Hussain claimed that the Home Secretary's discretion over their release dates breached the European Convention on Human Rights, which guarantees that any prisoner can have the lawfulness of the sentence determined by a court.

Last night Sir Ivan Lawrence, chairman of the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs, decried the way that British justice could be affected by the European Commission.

Murdered boy's sisters put in care

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE sisters of a six-year-old boy found murdered in Peterborough last month have been removed from their mother's care. Ruth Neave, 26, said the two girls, aged three and seven months, were taken away by social workers who accused her of killing her child Rikki and said she might kill the others.

Mrs Neave said she had written the manuscript of a book about a serial killer, but that did not mean she murdered Rikki. Rikki's naked body was found in a copse near his home. He was last seen by his mother the previous morning, walking alone towards school.

Rikki's older sister was already in care when he died. Mrs Neave is divorced from Rikki's father Trevor Harvey. She said: "They say the book means I killed Rikki but I love my children to bits. Anyone who kills a child should be locked up for life and Myra Hindley should be executed."

Jesse Jackson defends broadcast

BY IAN BRODIE AND EMMA WILKINS

THE Rev Jesse Jackson, who will deliver an attack on the Government's race relations record at the same time as the Queen's Christmas message, said yesterday that he did not intend to undermine the impact of the royal broadcast.

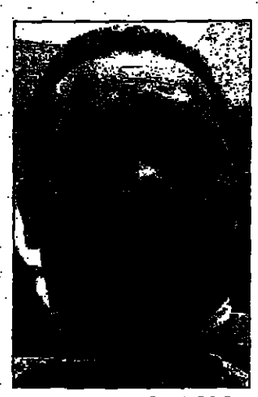
Mr Jackson, whose speech will be shown on Channel 4 at 3pm while the Queen's message is broadcast on BBC1 and ITV, was unaware that the programmes would clash when he recorded his comments, which call on Britain's "oppressed" people to engage in "disciplined resistance".

As Conservative MPs accused the American civil rights leader of interfering in British politics, he said there was no reason to change the timing of his programme and suggested that those who wanted to watch both could see a tape of one or the other. "I suport Britain's tradition of free speech and if all the channels had the same programme at the same time, that would be a monopoly," he said.

Mr Jackson, 53, paid a warm tribute to the Queen. He said: "She has handled the traditions of royalty, plus the politics of Britain and the domestic challenges of her children, in a way that shows she is a woman of great strength, character and courage. I'd like to meet her one day."

His speech says that economic insecurity in Britain is breeding fear. "But fear breeds intolerance and intolerance breeds violence." He lists a number of black and Asian murder victims and says: "All of them born and bred in Britain, all killed by people who objected to their presence in Britian, based on the colour of their skin."

Sir Ivan Lawrence, chairman of the Home Affairs Select Committee, dismissed Mr Jackson's attacks as irrelevant. "It will be a broadcast surpassing impertinence by someone who doesn't have the faintest idea what he's talking about. We have one of the fairest, most tolerant and humane systems of race relations, with institutions specially set up to monitor the aberrations which do sometimes occur. He should look to his own country, where racial attacks occur far more frequently than they do in this country."



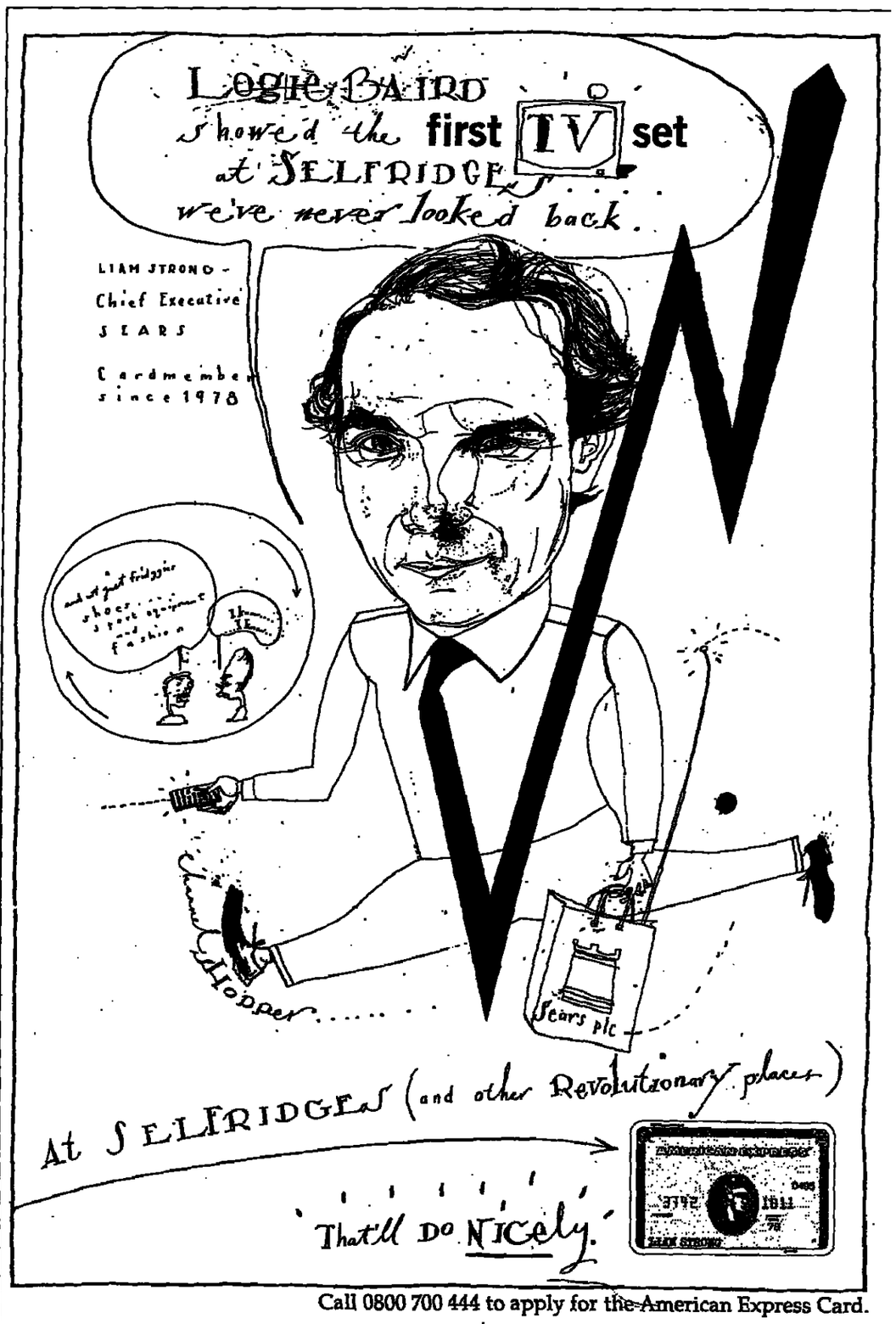
Jackson: attacks British record on race relations

Mr Jackson defended his right to comment on British government policies. He recalled that the Government had been on the wrong side of the apartheid issue in South Africa and added: "We learnt from the civil rights struggle in the US that Britain does have something to learn about racial justice and gender equality."

He said that Christmas was a test for the consciences of political leaders everywhere. "They should strive to be wise men and women who take gifts to the poor. They should make sure they are not like Herod or the innkeeper."

Channel 4 defended the programme, saying: "The whole point of the broadcast is that it's supposed to be an alternative viewpoint."

Leading article, page 17



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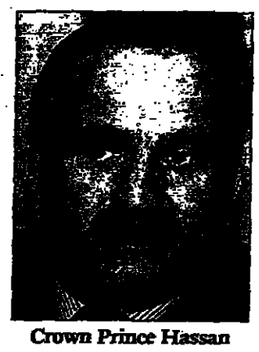
Christ Church breaks new ground with Arab prince's sermon

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

CROWN Prince Hassan bin Talal of Jordan has accepted an invitation to preach at Christ Church, Oxford, next year. The Crown Prince, a Muslim, will be the first non-Christian to preach at the historic institution, founded by Henry VIII, which is unique in that it is simultaneously a cathedral and a college of Oxford University.

Crown Prince Hassan, who was an undergraduate at Christ Church and whose daughter Badi'a, 20, is in her third year reading history, will preach one of two university sermons which are in the gift of the Dean, the Very Rev John Drury, and the chapter. The preaching date next June, which will be published in the *Oxford Gazette* in the new year, is certain to arouse controversy in conservative church circles.

The Right Rev Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford, who founded the Oxford Abrahamic Group for Jewish, Christian and Muslim scholars, said: "Greater understanding between Christians and Muslims is vital for the world in which we live. Crown Prince Hassan is a key figure on the world stage in getting Christians and Muslims together."

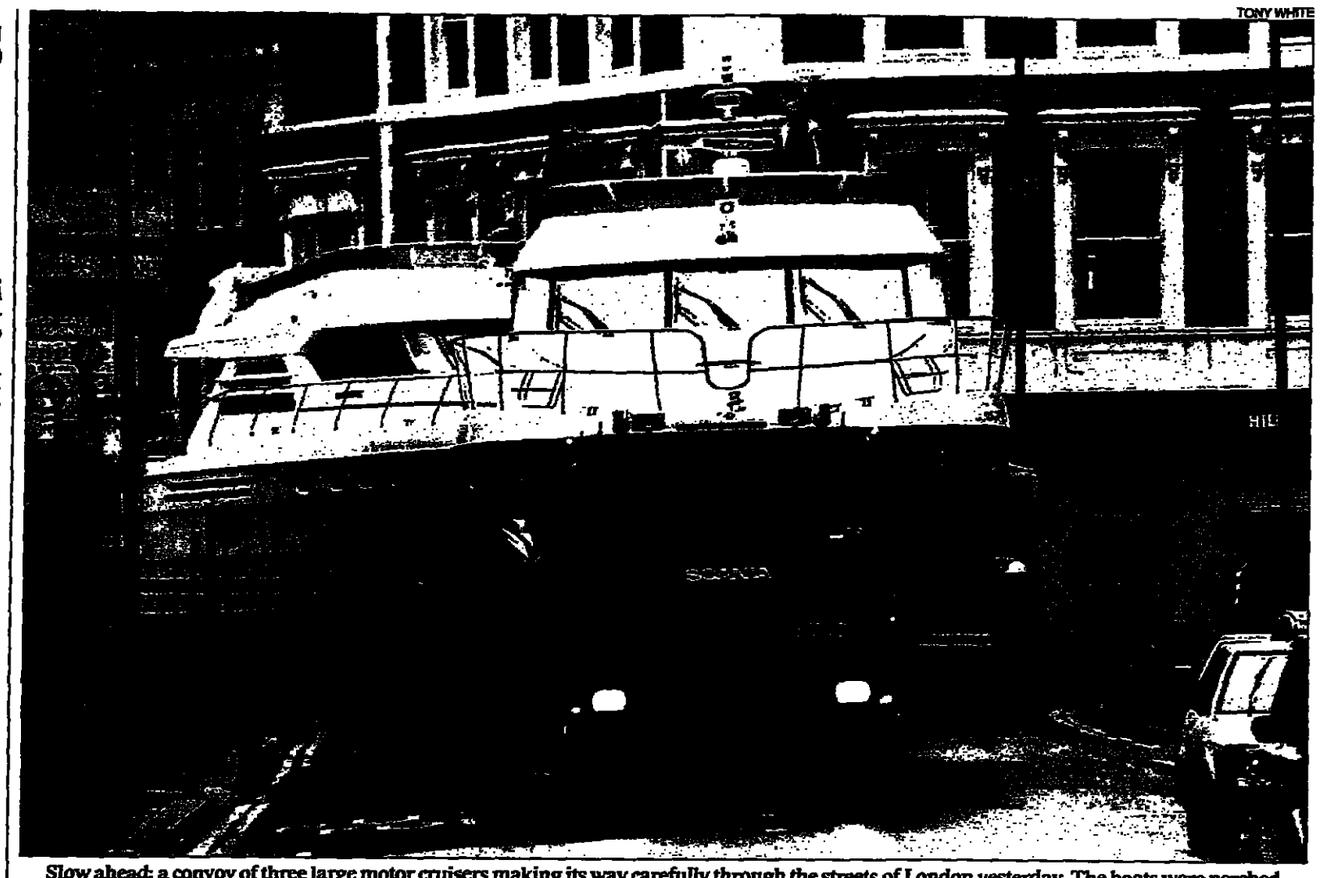


Crown Prince Hassan

The invitation is symbolic of how Christ Church, once a bastion of intellectual Anglican traditionalism, is adapting itself to an increasingly pluralist society: at a recent meeting of the General Synod, the Church of England agreed to allow two canon professorships to go for the first time to a person who is not ordained.

It will now be possible for a layman to become regius professor of ecclesiastical history when the present incumbent, Peter Hinchliff, steps down in 1996, although the new lay canon must be an Anglican or belonging to a church in communion with the Church of England.

Dean Drury, who predicted that the invitation might arouse some controversy, said: "Prince Hassan was here during the Six Day War, which was a dreadful time for him. At least one of his tutors at that time was Jewish, and was very good to him. He is a very open-minded Muslim, and part of that open-mindedness comes from his experience at Christ Church. There might be a bit of controversy but the Bishop supports us and so does the governing body of Christ Church and the university Vice-Chancellor Peter North."

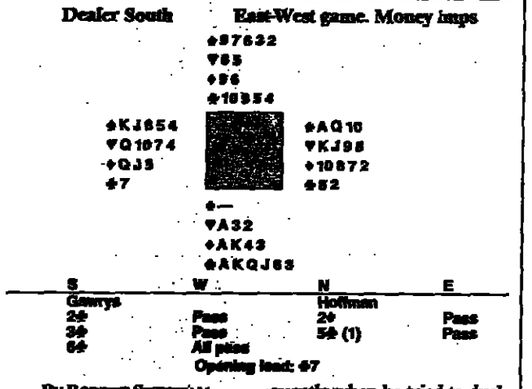


TONY WHITE

Slow ahead: a convoy of three large motor cruisers making its way carefully through the streets of London yesterday. The boats were perched on lorries which, perversely, carried a warning in French, and were on course for Earls Court, where the Boat Show runs from January 5-15

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer South — East-West game. Money imps



S	W	N	E
Gawrys		Hoffman	
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	5♣ (1)	Pass
6♣	All pass		

Opening lead: ♦7

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

(1) Intended by Hoffman as sign-off. I think Four Clubs followed by Five Clubs would have been more prudent.

This was a hand played in the New York Cavendish Club "imp" game: "Money imps" is a form of the game in which two teams of four are selected by lot from eight players, and the players then play teams bridge at so much an international Match Point (or "imp"). Thousands of dollars change hands in the Cavendish game.

Gawrys's Six Club contract was a good one, but West found the best lead of a trump. Dummy and East played low; Gawrys won in hand, and played ace, king and another diamond. When East plays the queen, what should the declarer do?

Gawrys ruffed the third diamond in dummy; subsequently when he tried to duck a heart East won and played a second trump to reduce the dummy to one trump, and leave the declarer one trick short. (He made ace of hearts, ace and king of diamonds, two ruffs and six club tricks.)

Hoffman assures me that with the eight-seven of clubs West would have led the eight. Hence the play to the first trick marks East with the eight, the defence's remaining trump; so the declarer should discard a heart from dummy when West plays the queen of diamonds on the third round. Letting West hold the trick will prevent the killer second round of trumps, and so the declarer will be able to use the three trumps in dummy to make his contract. I asked Hoffman what should the declarer have done if East had played the eight of clubs on the first round of trumps? Hoffman was unusually silent.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Champion girl

Ruth Sheldon, 14, scored the greatest chess success of her career so far in the rapid play girls' championship of Europe, held at the Euro-Disney park near Paris over the weekend. Ruth, from Manchester, dominated the tournament to take undivided first prize.

Fourth place

England finished fourth in the Moscow Olympiad, failing to take the bronze medal only on the tie-breaking rules. Their final position was in line with their seeding before the event. The following game sees the England number six losing against Tiviakov of Russia 'A', the gold medallists.

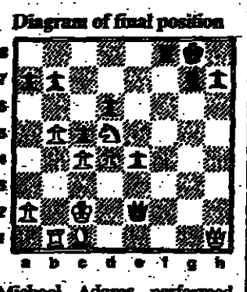
White: Hodgson (England)
Black: Tiviakov (Russia 'A')

English Opening

1	c4	e5
2	Nc3	Nc6
3	g3	g6
4	Bg2	Bg7
5	Rb1	Nf6
6	b4	0-0
7	b5	Ne7
8	Qb3	c5
9	d3	Nh5
10	e3	d6
11	Nge2	f5
12	Ne4	Qd7
13	h3	Nf6
14	g4	Nxe4
15	dxe4	Be6
16	Nc3	f5
17	exf5	gxf5
18	gxf5	Nxf5
19	h4	Qf7
20	Bd5	Bxd5
21	Nxd5	Nxh4
22	Qc2	Qh5
23	Kf1	Rxf2+
24	Kxf2	Qf3+
25	Ke1	Qxh1+
26	Kd2	e4
27	Qd1	Qg2+
28	Qe2	Nf3+
29	Kd1	Qg1+
30	Kc2	Qg4
31	Qd1	Rf8
32	Qh1	Nd4+
33	exd4	Qe2+

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Michael Adams performed excellently as England number two. Here is a win from the match against Belgium.

White: Adams
Black: Van der Verren

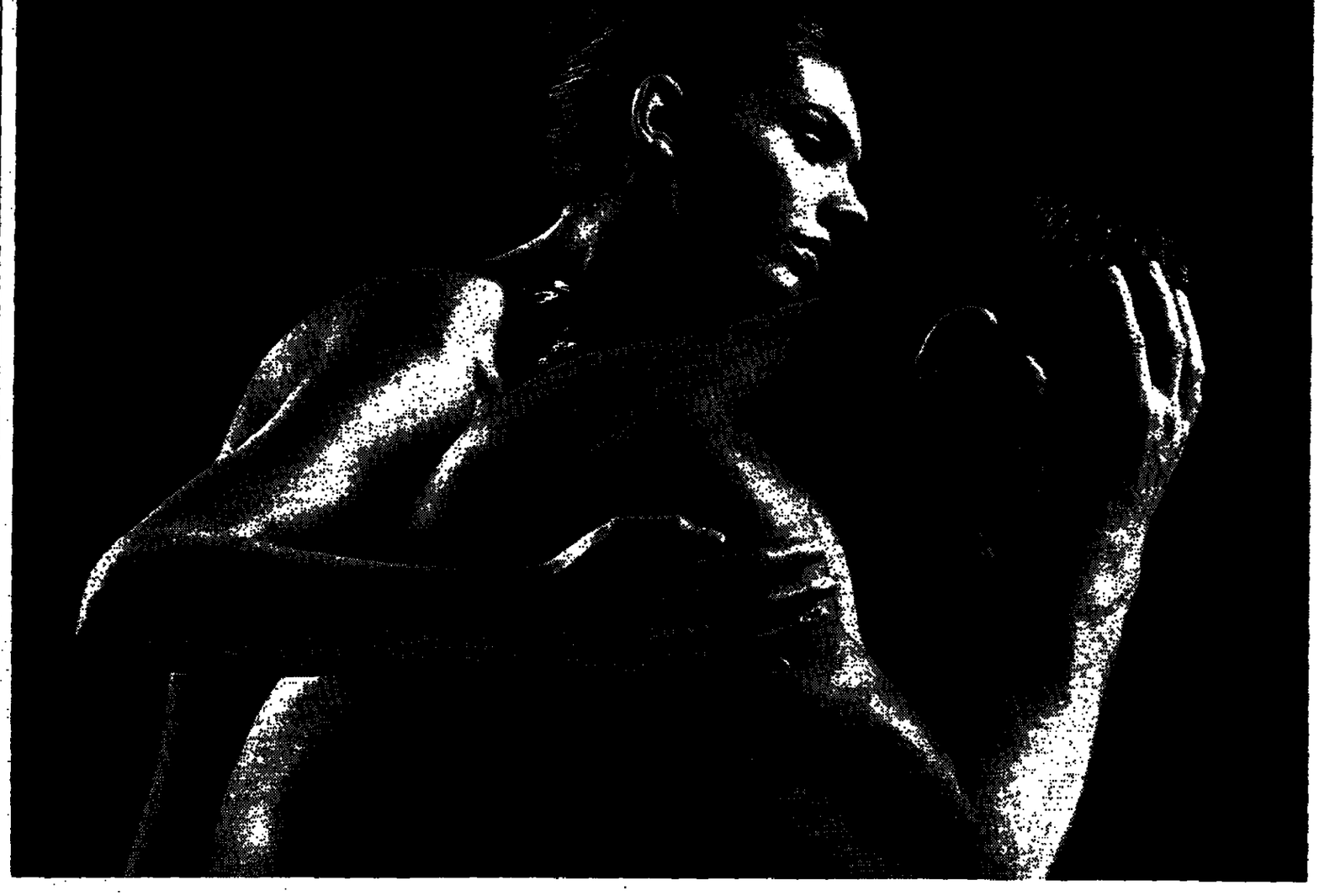
Owen's Defence

1	d4	e6
2	e4	b6
3	Nf3	Bb7
4	Bd3	c5
5	c3	cxd4
6	cxd4	Bb4+
7	Nc3	Nf6
8	Qe2	d5
9	e5	Ne4
10	0-0	Bxc3
11	bxc3	Nxc3
12	Qe3	Nc6
13	Bb2	Na4
14	Ba3	Qd7
15	Rfc1	Ne7
16	Bxe7	Qxe7
17	Bb5+	Kf8
18	Rc2	Rc8
19	Rxc8+	Bxc8
20	Rc1	Bb7
21	Ne1	f6
22	f3	Ng5
23	Nd3	Nf7
24	exd6	gxd6
25	Nf4	e5
26	Rc7	Qd8
27	Rxb7	exd4

Black resigns

Winning Move, page 40

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THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY A hope in hell

Car commuters to be squeezed in roads U-turn

BY TIM JONES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

OFFICE parking spaces are to be reduced to discourage car commuters. The plan is one of several the Government is pursuing as an official report admits that some new roads are increasing congestion rather than reducing it.

The long-delayed report by the Standing Advisory Committee on Trunk Road Assessment, to be published this week, will increase pressure on the Transport Department to embark on a "greener" agenda and to reduce road-building. The Government has held the report back from publication since it was received in May.

London will be the test-bed for the new approach because of its acute traffic problems. More than 170,000 cars, most of them carrying only the driver, crawl into the capital each day at peak-time average speeds of 8mph. According to some City analysts, the jams are threatening London's role as an international business capital.

Steven Norris, the Transport Minister for the capital, is determined to turn more people away from daily car use. He has agreed to a fundamental change in attitudes towards planning developments in London and elsewhere which will restrict car commuting.

"At one time it was *de rigueur* for any new office block development to include car parking spaces for employees, but that is now positively discouraged," Mr Norris said. "One of the most practical ways of reducing traffic congestion in cities is to reduce the number of private non-residential car parking spaces."

He said the department would be taking the lead when, next year, it moves to new headquarters, where car parking will be reduced from 359 spaces to 22.

Mr Norris's vast bailiwick is bounded by the M25, Britain's busiest motorway. The huge map of his territory that hangs in his Marsham Street office is littered with white spaces denoting derelict land. They include sites around King's Cross in central London and embrace more peripheral areas such as the Lea Valley.

"They could be used to build new communities, properly planned with schools and shops and leisure facilities to encourage people to live and work in London, so the need to reduce the car is minimised," Mr Norris said.

More immediately, he is involved with others policies designed to make London a more pleasant place in which to live and work. These include the introduction of more "red routes" to speed traffic and to divert cars from less suitable routes, more traffic calming measures such as "sleeping policemen" and speed cameras, and measures designed to punish owners of polluting vehicles.

Last week he unveiled a plan for the Thames that could help to reduce lorry journeys within the capital by millions of miles a year by carrying more goods on the river. He is also pressing ahead with schemes for more cycle lanes.

An important element of Mr Norris's plan is a huge improvement in public transport to London and within it, based on large injections of capital from the private sector. He believes that once schemes such as the Heathrow Express to Paddington, the London Underground Jubilee line extension and the Channel Tunnel rail link are in place, the motorist who now spends hours in traffic jams will welcome the alternatives.

While pressing the London boroughs to introduce more pedestrian-only areas, Mr Norris says that dreams of making the entire centre of the capital free of cars flies in the face of reality. "More could be done, but there are limits. You cannot close off the whole of central London to the car. There must be reasonable compromise and that is what I am about."

He is dismissive of some "dreamers" who believe that the car can be disinvented and that London and other cities can be returned to an earlier, more gentle age. "The problems are huge and complex and we must avoid the eco-fascists who refuse to see any role at all for the private car in cities.

"That is unreal. We cannot allow the debate to turn into a phobia backed up by hysterical sloganising."

MARTIN BEDDALL



Norris hemmed in by traffic outside Parliament

Worst polluters steer clear of exhaust clean-up

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

A CRACKDOWN on vehicles that heavily pollute the atmosphere, ordered in a blaze of publicity by the Transport Secretary, has failed to achieve any vehicle bans or driver fines.

Surveys of motoring organisations indicate that under the initiative, announced by Dr Brian Mahwinney at the Tory party conference and started early last month, only a handful of drivers have been issued with notices to clean up emissions within 14 days.

Steven Norris, the junior Transport Minister, said that one test by officers with the Vehicle Inspectorate had found 67 per cent of taxis were below standard. However, the number of vehicles involved is not being disclosed until complete figures are released in a few weeks.

Independent surveys by the RAC have found that 12 per cent of vehicles fail MoT emission tests. But a spokesman said it was unaware of any members having contacted the organisation since the launch of the roadside pollution checks. There was a similiar response from the Taxi Drivers' Association, the Road Haulage Federation and London Transport.

A spokesman for the AA said: "A number of members have rung our legal department, but no one has been prosecuted. If the Government is serious about cracking down on grossly polluting vehicles, they need to give these kinds of initiatives more teeth."

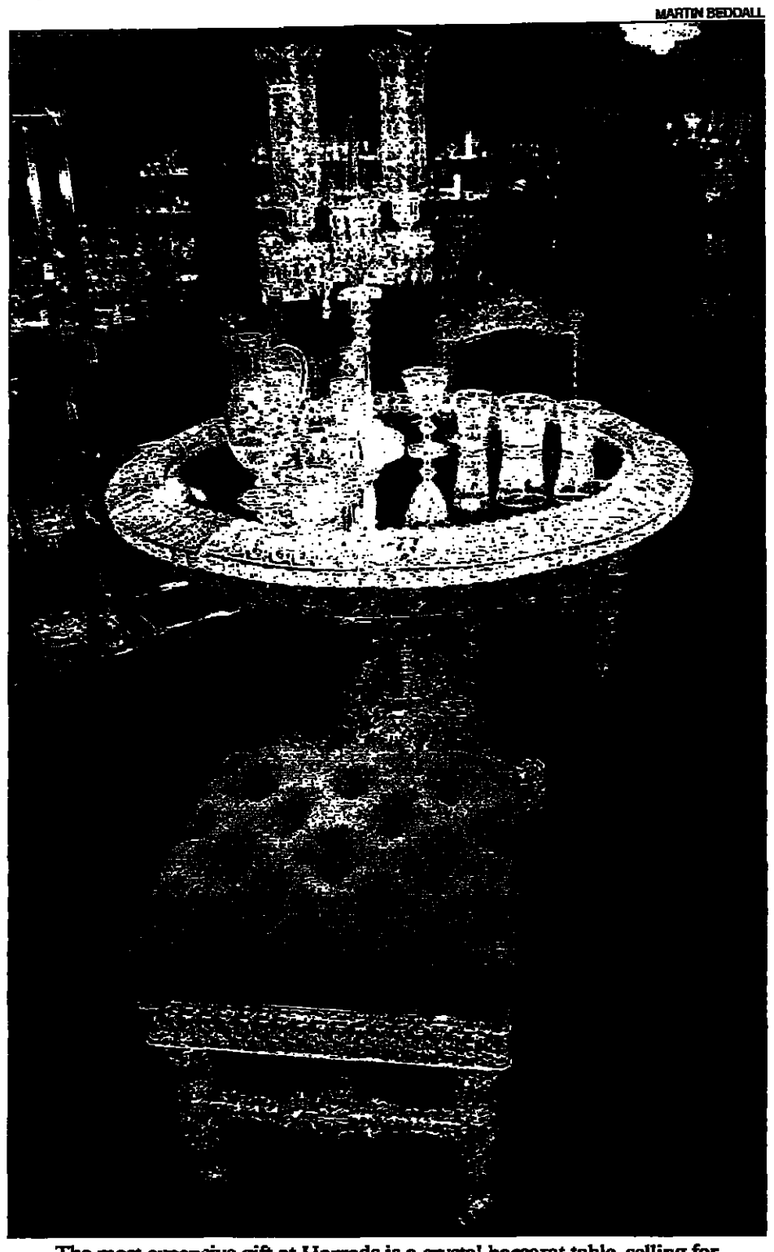
Studies by University College London indicate that the public would be willing to pay higher taxes to fund improvements to air quality and public transport.

Professor David Pearce, a former adviser to the Environment Department and an economist at UCL, said their studies showed that the public was prepared to pay about £20 billion on cutting air pollution for particulates alone, which are associated with vehicles that run on diesel and have been linked with a rise in asthma.

He said: "We are trying to get some idea of what people are prepared to pay as opposed to what politicians presume." Professor Pearce added: "Maybe we should be allocating the health budget in a different, more preventive, way. Instead of spending on treating asthma, bronchitis or heart complaints, more could be spent on preventing the cause, and that is air pollution."

Teddy bears for Chechenia top weekend of conspicuous consumption

MARTIN BEDDALL



The most expensive gift at Harrods is a crystal baccarat table, selling for £225,000. Teddy bears and carphones were proving more popular alternatives

Glamour and kitsch return for Christmas

BY LUCY BERRINGTON

GLAMOUR, kitsch and teddy bears are back this Christmas. Retailers reported yesterday that traditional toys and delayed indulgences were rounding off a year in which the "feel-good" factor had been notably absent.

The late shopping spree has seen some displays of conspicuous consumption. Shoppers grabbed everything from velvet dévoré scarves at Liberty to satin pyjamas at Marks and Spencer, while a Russian spent £6,500 on Saturday afternoon on hundreds of teddy bears for Chechen children. "He bought our entire stock of 352 teddy bears at £19.95 each," Martin Barrett, of Charlotte's Embroidery in Marble Arch, said. "He spent £15,000 in the whole street."

The Harrods 1994 limited edition Christmas bear, with tartan bow, had sold out at £19.95, with cream bears, golden bears and white bears also selling fast. Liberty bears and bunnies were going well, as were oak rocking horses at about £2,000.

The daughters of John Lewis shoppers will be decked out in evening wear, with ballerina-length skirts and flouncing chiffons in black, coppers and bronzes. Wives will unwrap mufflers, brocade, velvet waistcoats and all things jet and rhinestone. Men will end Christmas wrapped in leather and cashmere.

Harrods shoppers went for sparkly black evening dresses at £109 and sequinned backpacks for £39. At Liberty, Issey Miyake pleated silk separates, silk ties, amber necklaces and Gaultier and silver jewellery were "selling like crazy".

At John Lewis, favoured fragrances were "the real scents, very glamorous", a spokesman said. The top sellers at Harrods were Haute Parfumerie by Jean Paul Gaultier, Chanel No 5, L'Eau d'Issey by Issey Miyake, and Angel by Thierry Mugler.

Harrods was leading the way in domestic gifts, its most expensive piece a baccarat table made of 43 pieces of crystal; a bargain at £225,000. Relatively modest domestic appliances were selling better. The Edgware Road stores found carphones the top seller.

Sign of the Times was being looted for all things kitsch, including PVC jeans at £45 a pair. Love Heart rings went for £10, glitter purses and marching belts at £9.95.

Harrods reported that stockings will be stuffed with Lion King merchandise (£2.50 plus); Barbie dolls and accessories (£5.95 up), baby dolls at £44.95 and £69.95 and Power Rangers at £12.95. A pocket kite at £8.50 "came in and flew out" of Heal's.

Teenagers, according to a report published yesterday in *The Business Book for the Electrical Retail Market*, were getting out of computer games and back into music. At Tower Records in Piccadilly, central London, favourite albums included *The Beatles Live at the BBC* and Madonna's *Bedtime Stories*.

Retail sales, page 1

Police pledge no hiding place for drink-drivers

THE Christmas campaign by police against drink-drivers began yesterday as the Government attempted to deal with the "hard core" of persistent offenders — men in their forties.

While younger drivers generally heed the warnings, it is now middle-aged males who are the biggest menace. The campaign, organised by the Association of Chief Police Officers, runs until January 3 for the purposes of collating the number of drivers breath-tested and the proportion of those failing that test.

However, the police emphasise that their battle with the drinking driver is year-round — and they are determined to win. The association will release preliminary figures next Wednesday, and final figures will be announced on January 3.

The campaign runs in conjunction with the Government's advertising message on hoardings and television against drinking and driving. Police and the Government are pleased with the way that drink-drive related deaths have fallen from 1,550 in 1982 to 550 in 1993. But this is still 15 per cent of total road deaths. Last year, 105,932 drivers in road injury accidents were breath-tested, and 6.6 per cent failed. This compares with 42,265 tested in 1983 when 29.4 per cent failed.

Travel companies line up 20% discount on holidays

A RECORD 500,000 people will leave Britain by air, sea and rail between now and New Year's Day, an estimated 5 per cent rise on last year. The majority are heading for winter sun destinations and city breaks, with about 10 per cent taking ski packages (Marianne Curphey writes).

Yet while they are out of the country, Britain's tour operators and travel agents will be preparing for their most competitive selling period of the year. There are predictions of discounts of up to 20 per cent on brochure prices being offered by the main travel agents when advertising begins on Boxing Day. High street shops are likely to offer the large discounts immediately rather than repeat the brinkmanship displayed four months ago when discounts on brochure prices started at 11 per cent but increased to 15 per cent within hours as rival companies competed for business.

Keith Betton, spokesman for the Association of British Travel Agents, said: "Retailers could only sustain such levels for a few days, and will see most of their profits swallowed by a 20 per cent discount. It is a high price that no one wants to pay but no one wants to be left behind."

Health suites offer escape from season's ills

BY ANJANA AHUJA

MORE people are swapping a lazy Christmas at home for a spell in a health farm. An estimated 20,000 are due to indulge in exercise, aromatherapy, hydrotherapy, massage and other treatments to avoid a traditionally stressful time of year.

Health farms and hotels with health facilities are reporting swift business, with many full already. About one in three health farms is opening for Christmas and most of the 26 specialist hotels will offer special festive packages.

The alternative Christmases have proved popular with unattached professionals, especially middle-aged women. Many return every year, mostly to the women-only establishments, having been permanently wooed from celebrating at home.

One-day packages cost £50 upwards, with three-day breaks about £200 or above, inclusive of regulated meals. Ragdale Hall in Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, booked the last of its 64 double bedrooms a fortnight ago. For a minimum of £294, guests can enjoy all facilities, plus a champagne reception and four-course meals.

Needless to say, the cuisine is unseasonally healthy. "We have turkey, because that's quite good anyway," Hugh Wilson, the hall's manager, said. "It's quite difficult to get a low-calorie Christmas pudding so perhaps we should be a bit mean with the portions."



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March of factory farming leaves hare on the run

BY NICK NUTTALL

THE number of hares has fallen by 80 per cent since the start of the century, according to a new national survey.

Scientists claim that the chances of seeing one of nature's great spectacles, "Mad March" hares boxing in the countryside, is becoming as slim as finding snowballs in summer. The sharp decline is blamed on the growth in intensive agriculture since the Second World War.

Large numbers of leverets and adult hares are being killed by tractors, shot by farmers, slashed by silage-cutting machinery or poisoned by pesticides. While hares are legendary sprinters, with hind legs able to take them to 45mph in seconds, they sometimes press themselves flat against the land to confuse a predator. Often the predator is man astride heavy agricultural machinery.

The move to more planting of winter wheat is also depriving leverets of vital grazing food in the summer. Hare numbers have tumbled from an estimated four to five million in 1900 to 817,000 now.

The findings have come from Professor Stephen Harris and Mike Hutchings of Bristol University. The survey was commissioned by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, wildlife adviser to the Department of the Environment.



Brown hare: caught in a fight for survival

Tom Tew, mammal specialist at the committee, said yesterday: "Harris's survey is a pretty good estimate. We are going to have to look at the implications of this in full and an action plan may follow."

Professor Harris believes that even the estimate of 817,000, based on surveys made in the winter, may mask the true plight of the hare. Mass cullings from February onwards could cut populations in some areas by as much as 70 per cent. Mr Tew said: "In certain areas where they have hare shoots or coarses, local populations can take a hammering."

Britain has two species of hare. The brown was introduced 2,000 years ago by the Romans while the smaller mountain hare has been in the British Isles since before the last ice age. The survey has focused on the brown hare, *Lepus europaeus*, which unlike the mountain species, *Lepus timidus*, keeps a brown coat throughout the year rather than moulting into a white winter coat.

Professor Harris told *Natural World*, the wildlife trusts' magazine: "The worst declines are in what was thought to be the hare's strongholds, in Wales and the West Country. Brown hares are now largely confined to arable counties such as Norfolk, Cambridge and Suffolk."

Professor Harris's views are echoed by Gordon McClone, director of the Gloucestershire wildlife trust: "If you see a hare in this county now, it is unusual enough to warrant stopping and having a good look."

Bias and poor taste head complaints to BBC unit

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC'S new Programme Complaints Unit upheld 102 complaints from viewers and listeners, including four accusations of political bias against the Conservative Party, in its first eight months.

The unit's first report, published today, reveals that complaints about bias on BBC radio and television constituted nearly a quarter of all audience grievances received between January 31 and September 30 — more than any other category. Of the 590 complaints investigated, 143 related to bias. Next was poor taste, which accounted for 115.

Peter Dannheisser, head of the unit, said there were three times as many complaints about anti-government bias than bias against other parties, adding: "On a number of occasions complainants saw bias where the issue could equally be viewed as one of discourtesy in interviewing."

Mr Dannheisser's report says that a complaint was upheld from the Tory peer and former BBC manager Lord Orr-Ewing that a presenter on Radio 5 Live went "beyond acceptable limits" in suggesting on air that Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, Minister for Overseas Development, was visiting Rwanda primarily to take advantage of photo-opportunities.

Radio 4's arts programme, *Kaleidoscope*, was censured for "gratuitously offensive remarks" about Conservative politicians portrayed in a photography exhibition. Complaints were upheld from Sir George Young, a former housing minister, and John Walsh, a Conservative councillor in Manchester, that their views were not represented in news items concerning them.

An edition of Thought for the Day in Radio 4's *Today* programme on Israeli-Palestinian relations was found to contain an element of pro-Palestinian bias.

Mr Dannheisser said that two-thirds of bias complaints related to non-party issues. He added that well-founded complaints helped to equip programme makers with a "sharper, clearer view of what is acceptable to audiences".

Although the main focus for complaints about poor taste related to comedy programmes, Mr Dannheisser said he was not always able to uphold complaints in this area since the BBC catered for such a wide audience that some of its material was bound to offend some. "The best test we can apply is whether enough has been done to ensure that people know what they are being offered and are not caught unawares," he said.

He upheld 33 complaints about bad language in a BBC1 programme featuring the Scottish comedian Billy Connolly. David Mellor, MP, was also criticised for using unnecessarily strong language in his weekly football programme on Radio 5 Live while responding to technical problems when he mistakenly thought he was off air.

The complaints unit was set up in January after government pressure for the BBC to make itself more accountable and in response to public criticism about the effectiveness of programmes such as *Points of View*, *Biteback* and *Feedback*.

The unit's first report shows that only three of the upheld complaints led to a broadcast apology or correction. An appeals committee of BBC governors heard ten appeals from viewers who disagreed with the unit's rulings and overturned one.

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Ben Macintyre reports on the return of creationism to the US political agenda — in coded form

Darwin v. Designers: the new struggle for cultural supremacy



"Some call it Evolution And others call it God"

— William H. Carruth, *Each in His Own Tongue*

IDEAS evolve through the survival of the fittest, and no theory has endured a more intense intellectual assault during its relatively short lifetime than that of evolution.

In the United States that continuing struggle has given birth to a strange hybrid, a scientific theory known as "intelligent design", which attacks the established principles of evolution and proposes that organic life is the work of an "intelligent agent" — while studiously avoiding any mention of God, the Bible or religion.

The battle between creationists, who traditionally argue that the biblical account of creation can be verified scientifically, and evolutionists, who maintain that species evolve through random mutation and natural selection, has long raged in American schools and universities, going beyond mere scientific disagreement to reflect a fundamental cultural division in American society.

In 1925, John Thomas Scopes, a Tennessee schoolmaster, was put on trial for teaching evolutionary theory in his classes; nearly 60 years later, on a wave of resurgent Protestant fundamentalism, a law was passed in Arkansas requiring that creationism and evolution be taught with equal prominence in public schools. That law was finally struck down by the Supreme Court in 1987, on the ground that it was intended to propagate "the religious viewpoint that a supernatural being created humankind", and thus violated the constitutional separation of Church and State.

Evolution, it seemed, had become the official scientific doctrine of the State, despite the fact that many Americans rejected and still reject the theory. In a recent Gallup poll 47 per cent of Americans said they believed "God created man pretty much in his present form at one time within the last 10,000 years".

But creationism did not die. It has re-emerged with renewed vigour in the shape of a small, apparently innocuous, school textbook, with a large and, to many mainstream scientists, troubling message. *Of Pandas and People*, by the biologists Percival Davis and Dean Kenyon, expounds the theory of intelligent design to explain the origins of species.

Broadly they argue that life is so complex, each species so carefully adapted to its function and the gaps in evolutionary theory so glaring, that only by assuming the pre-existence of an intelligent agent can life be explained.

The theory of evolution, the authors claim, is insufficient to account for the emergence of complex new structures, biological systems and entire species. "Life," they conclude, in each of its many forms, "is like a manufactured object ... the result of intelligent shaping of matter."

Theorists of intelligent design claim to have elaborated a rigorously scientific illustration of the problems of evolutionary theory. Their opponents accuse them of peddling bogus science in a studied effort to return old-fashioned creationism to the school curriculum in a new guise. Identifying the intelligent agent is left to individual reader and the "religious viewpoint" condemned by the Supreme Court in 1987 is thus strongly implied but never specified.

Take the giraffe: evolutionists argue that the animal's long neck and legs are the consequence of tiny, individual, random changes, preserved by natural selection. Giraffes need to feed in high trees, therefore the longer-necked giraffes survive in greater numbers.

For the proponents of intelligent design, the giraffe is an "adaptational package", combining long neck and legs, a strong heart to keep the blood pumping to its extremities and a powerful kick to deter predators. One characteristic without the others, they insist, would be meaningless, whereas "the interdependence of structures ... strongly suggests that the overall, integrated package was present from the beginning".

In the intelligent design plan, trial and error mutation acted on by natural selection may produce the "fine-tuning" of an organism, but "in creating a new organism, as in building a new house, the blueprint comes first. We cannot build a palace by tinkering with a tool shed and adding bits of marble piecemeal here and there. We have to begin by devising a plan for the palace that co-ordinates all the parts into an integrated whole."

But as other biologists have argued, notably Richard Dawkins in *The Blind Watchmaker*, genetic changes occur as the smallest mutations in a population of millions, spanning vast lengths of time. If these are genuinely beneficial, natural selection will ensure that over multiple generations the incremental effect is the development of highly complex biological structures, until the tool shed does indeed rise as a palace.

Perhaps the most telling element of the intelligent design theory is the argument that if, as Darwin suggested, all living things may be traced back in a continuous evolutionary chain to a few original forms, then the fossil record should provide overwhelming evidence of "transitional forms". But as the framers of intelligent design point out, such links are, in many cases, still missing. Darwin himself noted that "geology assuredly does not reveal any such finely graduated organic chain" and admitted that this was "the most obvious and gravest objection which can be urged against my theory".

Modern evolutionists point out that enough transitional forms exist to underpin the general theory while others have moved on from pure Darwinian evolution to "punctuated equilibrium", whereby evolution takes place in relatively sudden jumps, combined with long periods of stasis, hence the apparent gaps in the fossil record.

Intelligent design theorists argue that the unnamed agent of creation made "fully formed and functional creatures", providing each species with a uniquely tailored package. But how does one explain the flaws in those creations without accepting the blasphemy that the creator was capable of making mistakes?

In *Technology Review*, Professor Kenneth Miller of Brown University persuasively argued recently that the human eye, although "a superb visual instrument" contains a basic design flaw: the blind spot in the retina, which can be explained only as a consequence of the eye's gradual evolution from a simple light-sensing cell to a complex, fully functioning organ. An all-knowing designer would surely have removed any such error from the blueprint.

The objections to intelligent design theory have not prevented *Of Pandas and People* from reaching a wide, enthusiastic and growing audience. Instead of promoting legislative change, as was attempted in the 1980s, the book's promoters have recruited what they call a "quiet army" of individual biology teachers and receptive school boards.

While insisting on a scientific, rather than religious rationale for intelligent design, the authors acknowledge the role played by faith in the continuing debate. "On both sides, the decision one ultimately makes regarding the fossils rests on philosophical commitments as well as on empirical data," they write.

On the wider cultural landscape of America, intelligent design theory may be simply another element in the visible campaign to promote spirituality in an aridly secular age: school prayer is back on the political agenda, religious self-help books are booming, Marian visions are widespread.

Creationism has re-emerged in coded form, perhaps less because of claims to scientific validity than because it fulfils a simple human need to believe there's a divinity that shapes our beginnings, as well as our ends, rough-hew them how we will.

agenda

WHY DON'T HENS HAVE TEETH?

AN ADVOCATE of intelligent design theory would argue that, in the complex inter-related biological structure that makes up a hen, teeth are not necessary for the organism to function and thus did not appear on the hen blueprint. Instead, the "intelligent designer" gave chickens beaks and gizzards.

Evolutionists would argue that the hen is descended from an earlier form of life that may have had teeth, but these were evolved out in favour of more useful genetic traits.

In 1980 two researchers from the University of Connecticut found that, if dental tissue from mice was placed in contact with the epithelial cells in the mouths of chicks, they began to grow teeth.

The experiment proved, in the words of Professor Miller, that "birds are descended from organisms that once had teeth [and] thus have a genetic mark of their own history no designed organism should ever possess".

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Critics discount peace envoy's talk of hopes for Christmas deal

Carter begins 'naive' mission

FROM JOEL BRAND IN ZAGREB AND GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

JIMMY CARTER, the former American President, began a peace mission in the former Yugoslavia yesterday in an optimistic mood despite severe criticisms of his tour and claims that he was naive.

Before boarding a plane from Zagreb, the Croatian capital, to Sarajevo, he said: "My hope is to contribute in a small way to peace and the protection of human rights, to the alleviation of tension in Bosnia. I think there are possibilities for optimism."

Mr Carter said earlier at Frankfurt airport that he hoped there could be a peace settlement before Christmas.

He later met officials from the Bosnian and Croatian governments and United Nations, despite fears among UN and Western officials that the Serbs may use the trip to undermine other peace talks.

One well-placed official said foreign diplomats who met Mr Carter for brief talks yesterday had found him incredibly naive. "Coming in like this, he's just not up to the complexity of what is going on here," the official said. Long-time mediators are increasingly coming to the conclusion that the Bosnian Serbs will not agree to a peace settlement that does not recognise the quasi-state they have created by expelling, terrorising, and killing hundreds of thousands of Muslims.

They fear the Serbs' invitation to Mr Carter may be an attempt to obtain a settlement that will grant them diplomatic recognition or reinvigorate a peace process to mask continued war. They also say that the promises he hopes to extract from the Serbs miss the mark and are easily reversible. Attempts to get Mr Carter to negotiate for a UN presence in areas where the Serbs have been expelling Muslims came to nothing, a UN official said, adding there were "very deep misgivings" about the venture.



Jimmy Carter arrives at Zagreb airport yesterday

Mr Carter flew to Sarajevo with aides and his wife, Rosalynn, on board a UN plane, then spent most of the day meeting the rebel Serb leadership in their self-declared capital, Pale, a mountain village 30 miles east of Sarajevo. At the end of last month, Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, left Bosnia without meeting the Serbs after a disagreement about a meeting place. He said that the international community had recognized only the Sarajevo Government, and refused to go to Pale for talks.

Mr Carter has received enormous criticism from UN and diplomatic officials. "It has a far greater potential of being a fiasco than the Secretary-General's visit," said one UN official. "At least the Secretary-General held firm on some principles."

In Zagreb, Mr Carter met Haris Silajdzic, the Bosnian Prime Minister, President Tudjman of Croatia, and Yasushi Akashi, the UN special envoy to the former Yugoslavia. After a scheduled six hours of talks in Pale today, Mr Carter is due to meet President Izetbegovic of Bosnia. On Wednesday, he may travel to Belgrade to meet President Milosevic of Serbia. The UN reported yesterday that the town of Velika Kladusa in the Bihac pocket appeared to have fallen into Serb and rebel Muslim hands.

Meanwhile, military chiefs of Nato countries with soldiers serving in Bosnia are meeting in The Hague today to discuss attempts to toughen up the role of UN forces. The two-day meeting may expose and widen divisions between the UN and Nato, which are competing for control of the approximately 24,000 peacekeeping troops.

"I get the sense that this is a last throw," said one Nato diplomat. "If we get together all these top military people, go through the card, agree new measures and those don't work — then there's not much else left." The only option remaining would be an expensive and humiliating withdrawal. Key items on today's agenda will be proposals from the French and American governments to make Unprofor less vulnerable to intimidation by the Bosnian Serbs.



A Bosnian Serb delivers ammunition by horseback to the front line near Bihac

Ah, December 25th in a far off oil field. Wonderful.

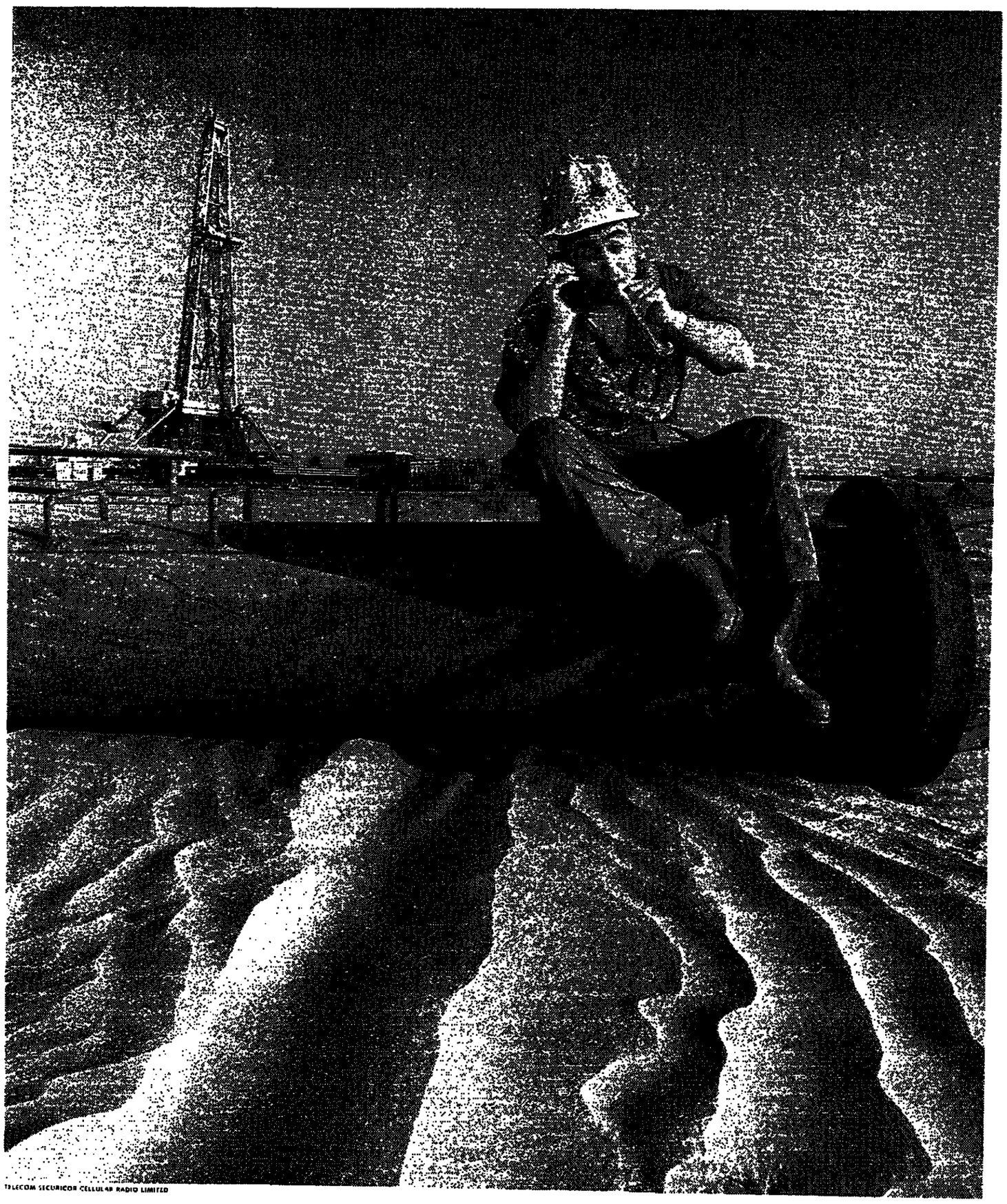
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Greeks summoned to arms against Islam in Bosnia

FROM MALCOLM BRABANT IN ATHENS

SITTING beneath a photograph of Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, Dimitris Vounatsos pulled deeply on another cigarette, and warned his compatriots in Greece to prepare to fight alongside the Serbs and Russians to prevent Turkish-led Muslim forces gaining a foothold in Central Europe.

Surrounded by Serb flags, bullet cases and other memorabilia from visits to Dr Karadzic's self-proclaimed Serb republic in Bosnia, the fiery Socialist MP added: "It won't just be a problem for the Greeks. Since ancient times, we have been the shield of Europe, defending it against the Persians and Turks. This will be a question for the whole of Christianity."

Mr Vounatsos's nightmare of a pan-Balkan holocaust has been prompted by Turkey's declaration that its troops will stay on and reinforce in Bosnia if the United Nations Protection Force leaves.

Other Greek politicians and military analysts are also afraid that the presence of the Turks, who have 1,200 men in the central Bosnian steel and mining town of Zenica, could act as a rallying point for expeditionary forces from Sarajevo's more fundamentalist supporters, such as Iran.

Tehran is angry that its offer to send 10,000 "blue helmets" to Unprofor was rejected on the ground that their presence would provoke the Serbs. Western military experts expect Iran to go to the Bosnian Muslims' aid in the event of Unprofor's withdrawal and the arms embargo being lifted.

An adviser to Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose, the UN commander in Bosnia, said: "The Iranians would find it extremely difficult to get their troops into Bosnia in the heat of battle, and also to provide the necessary back-up, not least because their air force is in such bad shape."

Even though European Union military chiefs are meeting in The Hague today to decide ways of beefing up the peacekeeping operation, diplomats, UN officials and EU politicians are all aware that Unprofor may be forced to retreat in the spring.

General Rose has predicted that a withdrawal would do only lead to greater bloodshed in Bosnia, but also that the war might spread beyond its borders. He also recognises the danger of the Turks staying on, and believes the UN will order them to withdraw in the event of a total pullout. Other experts expect that Nato will use Ankara's desire to forge closer ties with Europe as a lever to press the Turks to fall into line.

"The consequences of Turkey staying on would be extremely grave," Michalis Papaconstantinou, the former Foreign Minister of Greece, said. "You could not then deny the Serbs the right to ask the Russians to intervene."

Bulgaria 'staying in the slow lane'

FROM TIM JUDAH IN SOFIA

BULGARIANS voted yesterday in an election that opinion polls predicted would either see the return to power of their former communist masters or parliamentary chaos.

The polls indicated that the Bulgarian Socialist Party was way ahead of its main rival, the anti-communist Union of Democratic Forces (UDF), but that it stood only an even chance of taking most seats in parliament.

For the past four years, economic reform in Bulgaria has proceeded at a snail's pace because a succession of weak governments has lacked the power to push through the full legislation necessary for it to catch up with the "fast-track" former communist countries of Central Europe and Poland.

Pessimistic Western observers predict that a Socialist victory will keep Bulgaria in the "slow lane", but that a parliament full of fractious splinter parties squabbling for power will lead to more wasted years and disappointment with democracy. In one poll, 69 per cent of respondents said that life is worse today than before the collapse of communism.

Such is the number of luxury cars cruising the streets of Sofia and young men craning to hear what is being said on their mobile telephones that widespread disillusion seems at first surprising. Shops are full to bursting, shiny banks dominate the once gloomy city centre and walls are plastered with election posters promising a bright future.



President Zhelev casting his vote yesterday

However, one has only to turn on the tap for a brutal return to reality. Drought, combined with the general deterioration in the infrastructures, means that suburban Sofia has water only on day in three. In the countryside, land redistribution has proceeded chaotically, works in dying state industries go unpaid for months, and privatisation has barely begun.

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'Every nation has its black sheep. The Chechens just have more than most'

Muscovites fear war less than mafia reprisals

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

MUSCOVITES who admit how much they dread the prospect of a war against the Chechens do not fear the fighting in the distant Caucasus so much as the threat of a conflict much nearer home.

While the stand-off between Russian forces and Chechen fighters in the breakaway republic has dominated the news here, the man in the street is privately more concerned about the threat of reprisals by the powerful Chechen clans who live in every large Russian city.

Moscow police have doubled their street patrols, cancelled all leave, and ordered many reinforcements into the capital to help to man roadblocks and guard government buildings. A special anti-terrorist unit of the Interior Ministry's Dzerzhinsky Division is also on alert.

"The Chechens should be kept under control in Moscow every day and especially in the days of crisis — they are capable of anything," said one police officer.

Members of the secessionist government in Grozny have regularly given warnings that, if attacked, their forces will sabotage Russian nuclear installations and other sensitive targets. Anatoli Safonov, the deputy director of Russian counter-intelligence, claimed that one Chechen cell was already on standby in Moscow with orders to open fire on a government motorcade with portable rockets as it travels down Kutuzovsky Boulevard to the Kremlin.

The Interior Ministry said at the weekend that police had arrested four groups of Chechens in Moscow and charged them with illegal possession of weapons. Tass reported that the ministry also told a meeting of government ministers that 24 hoax bomb threats had been received.

What the authorities fear most is that the conflict in Chechenia will lead to widespread reprisals by the well-funded and well-armed Chechen mafia, widely regarded as the most ruthless crime syndicate in Russia. Like the Sicilians, whose Cosa Nostra was evolved as an underground organisation during the island's centuries of conquest, so the Chechen mafia was born of chaos. Like Cosa Nostra, it developed the same system of clan allegiance and vendetta attacks.

Although Caucasian nations enjoyed notoriety as the kings of the black market in the Communist era, the Chechens came into their own when the Soviet Union broke up and their country declared independence. With this ambiguous half-nation status, the Chechens rapidly developed Grozny, their capital, into the centre of organised crime for the whole of the former Soviet Union. Guns, drugs and contraband flowed in and out of the country with ease, and Chechen gunmen carried out so many mass kidnappings that the region was dubbed a Russian Bermuda Triangle.

According to the Russian police, the Chechen mafia has expanded to about 60 gangs involving 2,000 members trafficking in drugs, prostitutes and stolen cars from the Baltic to the Pacific. If they were to turn their considerable resources against the weakened Russian state, it is not easy to see how the central authorities would be able to cope.

A taste of what could happen was revealed yesterday by the *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* newspaper, which claimed that a bomb explosion which seriously damaged a Moscow bridge last month was designed as a warning by the Chechen mafia.

"It is not fair to pin everything illegal on the Chechens; there are a lot of criminals from all over the Caucasus operating in Moscow," said the Russian police officer in charge of security. "Every nation has its black sheep. They just seem to have more of them than most."



Chechen soldiers near the front line 18 miles west of Grozny, the besieged capital, at the weekend

Yeltsin snubs rebel leader

ntinued from page 1

e Moscow's authority over ir country. The Chechens ve vowed never to give up ir independence.

There has been no sign that e Russian northern column Chechenia, which is within ght miles of Grozny, is oving to surround the city. e other Russian column, hich entered Chechenia om the west, no longer ppears to be obeying governent orders. On Saturday, fficers told me they had cided to support their comander, Major General Ivan Babichev, in his refusal to advance further. They said that they had written a joint letter to the Defence Ministry opposing the intervention.

Some junior officers expressed anger against President Yeltsin and what one of them called "the political prostitutes" who had set them to Chechenia. Looking dejected in the sleet and appearing like tramps in their dirty and ragged uniforms, officers complained bitterly about their living standards and the lack of funding for the army. "I have served for 20 years. I am on the edge of my pension, and I do not even have a flat," a major told me.

Morale among the Russian troops at the head of the western column also seemed low, as was their reluctance to confront Chechen civilians. As Sergei, one senior lieutentant, said: "If we were to shoot into a crowd of women blocking the road, three days later we would be sitting in a corner and saying to ourselves, my God, what have I done?"

Additional reporting by Richard Beeston in Moscow

Press gag upsets Yeltsin allies

BY RICHARD BERSTON

THE Kremlin's attempts to silence critics in Russia and abroad of its handling of the Chechen crisis has locked President Yeltsin in a dispute with the very people who helped him to power.

Ever since Moscow declared its intention to reimpose its authority on the breakaway republic by force, the mainstream Russian press has been united in opposing the campaign. *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, a liberal daily which normally supports the Mr Yeltsin, accused him of cynically stirring up the crisis in the Caucasus as a prelude to dissolving parliament.

At the other end of the political spectrum, the hard-line *Sovetskaya Rossiya* was even more damning. "What a wonderful way we celebrated Constitution Day this year," it said. "We have a tank advance, cannon fire, airplane and helicopter attacks and all with live ammunition . . . and even live targets." Reports from the northern Caucasus have also been negative.

To counter the attacks, the Kremlin has reacted with classic Soviet-era methods, calling for "objective coverage" while intimidating reporters covering the story from Grozny. The authorities say press restrictions are always imposed for reasons of security at times of conflict.

However, Russian forces have harassed and even shot at Russian and foreign journalists.

Palestinian shock troops chip away at façade of peace

FROM GENEIVE ABDO IN RAFAH, GAZA STRIP

■ Hamas says it will not be deterred from its aim: destroying the PLO accord with Israel

THE orders came in the small hours with a loud knock on the front door. "Go to the border each night for a month and monitor the movements of Israeli soldiers on patrol," the man said.

Hasser, 32, a building worker and member of Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, did as he was told. A month later four members of the group crossed illegally into the Gaza Strip from Egypt, eluding the Israeli soldiers whose job it was to keep them out.

There are an estimated 2,000 to 3,000 young men like Hasser in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Committed to building an Islamic state and destroying the peace agreement between Yassir Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization and Israel, the men are soldiers in the Gassam Brigades, Hamas's military wing.

It took three decades for the PLO and Israel to agree, at least on paper, to end years of war and bloodletting. But in the less than six months since the peace accord was signed, attacks carried out by the Gassam Brigades have chipped away rapidly at the fragile peace accord, which launched Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho. "Hamas is against the peace process and we will fight until it is finished," Hasser said, sitting nervously in his bedroom. "We want the Israelis to return all Palestinian land, not just Gaza and Jericho."

The brigades have killed at least 100 Israeli soldiers and civilians since the peace plan was signed in May, and have bombed buses and army checkpoints in suicide missions. They live in secret, hiding from Israeli forces and Palestinian police who would rather toss them in jail. But their operations reverberate loudly on the streets of Gaza and in the corridors of the Knesset, the Israeli parliament.

A rise in Hamas attacks is causing Israel's ruling Labour Party to rethink the peace process. In recent weeks, Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister, has expressed doubts over whether Israeli troops will withdraw from Palestinian areas in the West Bank before Palestinians elections are held.

The brigades are also causing damage internally to Mr Arafat. As time passes, his popularity diminishes, largely because of worsening economic conditions. When elections are finally held, Hamas may have gathered enough public support to become a formidable force in the new Palestinian administration.

"The streets of Gaza do not belong to anyone," Elie Rekhess, a Hamas expert at Tel Aviv University, said. "Gaza is divided. It is a real pressure cooker."

Since its emergence in 1987, Hamas, which means "zeal" in Arabic, has pursued its mission on two fronts and has spoken with two voices. Hamas leaders, the sheikhs and scholars who speak publicly for the movement, have tried to transform Gaza and the West Bank from a secular into an Islamic society. The street generals, whose military operations belie talk of compromise, have tried to take over by force.

"The Israeli occupation changed the principles of society. Now we are trying to return our society to its religious traditions," Amad Falugi, a Hamas leader in the Gaza Strip, said.

While the social arm of Hamas has worked to transform the Palestinian soul, the military minds behind the movement have charted a different course. Through the Gassam Brigades, Hamas is applying pressure on Israel and the Palestinian National Authority to give the group a formal role in creating a Palestinian homeland.

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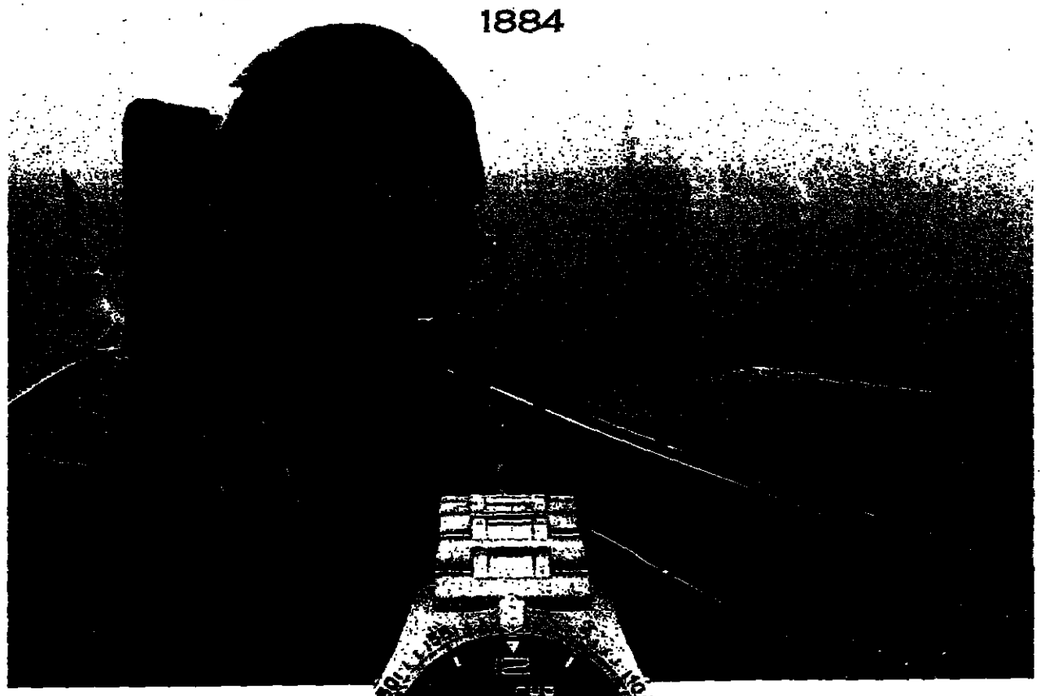
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INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS

Chirac changes his spots with claim to champion Left

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

WITH the Socialist Jacques Delors out of next May's French presidential race, Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, has made a grab for territory on the Left, casting himself as the champion of the humble in a battle with the elite as personified by Edouard Balladur, the party's Prime Minister.

L'Humanité, the Communist Party daily, could barely contain its mirth after M Chirac, who was a Thatcher-style Prime Minister in the mid-1980s and hails from the highest echelon of the technocrat class, unveiled his campaign in Lyons. "Decidedly, he is Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde," the paper said.

M Chirac's gambit is based on solid logic. With the Socialist Party in nervous breakdown and without any plausible contender, the field is open for a "caring" candidate to respond to the social crisis generated by France's chronically high unemployment. Running a distant second to M Balladur, the strong favourite, M Chirac wants to harness public discontent and paint his colleague and "friend of 30 years" as the agent of the ruling class. By adopting a populist tone, he is also tapping the anti-establishment groundswell that had benefited Bernard Tapie, the left-wing tycoon who was forced out of the race by being declared bankrupt last week.

"Little by little, with the complicity of the elite, the technocrat class has taken over all power," M Chirac told voters in a depressed Lyons suburb. He was standing as the champion of "the little people" against those from the "posh districts", he said. An aide to M Balladur quipped that this sounded odd coming from the man who has been the Mayor of Paris, France's "poshest district", since 1977.

France, M Chirac, 62, says, has a choice between the status quo, as represented by M Balladur, and a complete break with the past that will return power to the people under his leadership. Stung by media mockery, he insisted yesterday that he was merely trying to restore the true spirit of the political thought bequeathed by De Gaulle.

M Chirac, who is making his third run for the presidency, insists that M Balladur is vulnerable in spite of polls that show him far ahead of the field. Despite the virtual Socialist abdication of the past week, the pollsters are beginning to talk of a shift in sympathy away from the Prime Minister as his statesmanlike aura gives way to the profile of a politically ambitious contender.

M Balladur is waiting for the New Year before formally announcing his formal candidacy for the April election, but he is campaigning hard for the Centre ground and moderate Right. His task has been complicated by M Delors' departure, because the vacuum on the Left promises to provoke an ugly brawl among the conservatives. Philippe de Villiers, the independent nationalist contender, made a venomous attack at the weekend, saying "Balladurism is a sickness".

On the Left, mourning over M Delors's decision not to stand has yielded to bitterness and feuding. While some of his most prominent supporters are complaining that he betrayed them, the Socialists are showing reluctance to endorse the two potential, and eager, candidates with the highest ratings in the polls.

They are Jack Lang, the former Culture Minister and long-time disciple of President Mitterrand, and Bernard Kouchner, the former Humanitarian Affairs and Health Minister. M Lang, a flamboyant figure popular with the young, is distrusted by the party leadership. According to media reports, they have told him he could not survive scrutiny of his personal wealth. Dr Kouchner, the glamorous media darling of the early 1990s, has no background in politics and is only loosely affiliated to the Socialist Party. A sign of the Socialist depression came yesterday from Michel Rocard, the former Prime Minister and party leader until last July: "the chances of the Left winning the election are very weak", he said.



Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, left, Jacques Chirac, centre, and Eduoard Balladur at the funeral of Antoine Pinay, father of the "new franc"

US helicopter pilot was killed in North Korea crash

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN WASHINGTON

THE pilot of a US helicopter that strayed into North Korean airspace was killed when his aircraft came down, the White House said yesterday. The second pilot was alive and reportedly uninjured.

"This tragic loss of life was unnecessary," President Clinton said. Chief Warrant Officer David Hilemon of Clarksville, Tennessee, "was killed in the downing of the helicopter". It added that the second pilot, Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Hall, from Brooksville, Florida, was "alive and reportedly uninjured".

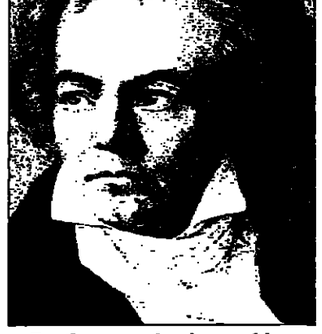
The United States was informed by the North Koreans of the pilots' fate through Bill Richardson, a Democrat congressman from New Mexico, who went to Pyongyang on an unrelated mission involving US-North Korean relations.

Through Mr Richardson, President Clinton demanded "prompt access" to Chief Warrant Officer Hall. "Our primary concern now is the welfare of Chief Warrant Officer Hall and his return, along with the body of Chief Warrant Officer Hilemon," the President said in a statement. Mr Richardson would remain in North Korea "for now, and will remain in constant contact with North Korean officials on our behalf". The statement said that Mr Richardson was also in contact with Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of both of these dedicated aviators," President Clinton said.

Donna Hall, the wife of the surviving pilot, wept when told the news. "I'm elated that my husband is safe, but my heart goes out to the family of the other man," she said, as she cried what she described as "tears of joy".

US military delegates met North Korean officials yesterday at the border village of Panmunjom, in their first official talks since the unarmed OH58C helicopter, said by Washington to be on a routine training mission, crossed into North Korea on Saturday.

South Korean military sources said ground troops saw the helicopter fly into North Korean territory, but no signs of an attack or pursuit, the *Dong-A Ilbo* newspaper reported in Seoul.



Beethoven: scientists seeking clues to mysteries about him

Ludwig's locks under the microscope

BY BEN MACINTYRE

LUDWIG van Beethoven is the latest historical figure with an appointment to have his hair done, scientifically speaking, in an attempt to find out more about his health and heredity.

Two music enthusiasts bought a framed lock of Beethoven's hair at Sotheby's in London this month for £4,600 and plan to conduct forensic science tests to discover whether the musician died of syphilis and had some African ancestors, as some historians maintain.

Brilliant Guevara, founder of the Centre for Beethoven Studies at San Jose State University, and his brother Alfredo, a surgeon, believe that the slightly grizzled, curly lock about four inches long, may hold the key to some of the most enduring Beethoven mysteries.

The composer's deafness has been interpreted by some as a symptom of venereal disease, a theory that would be bolstered if traces of mercury, the treatment for syphilis at the time, are found in his hair. Testing may also help to settle the long-running debate over Beethoven's racial make-up.

The hair is believed to have been taken from Beethoven's head as he lay in state in 1827.

The composer is the latest in a string of notable people to have his body parts held up for posthumous scrutiny. Earlier this year strands of Napoleon's hair were subjected to forensic science analysis to see if he might have been poisoned, and last week a New Jersey scientist claimed to be the proud owner of Albert Einstein's eyeballs.

Interest in Beethoven, if not necessarily his music, is suddenly on the rise in America. Last Friday, the 224th anniversary of Beethoven's death, saw the release of *Immortal Beloved*, a lush and romantic film portrayal of the composer's life starring Gary Oldman — whose previous musical roles include Sid Vicious, the late Sex Pistol — and Isabella Rossellini.

The film has been criticised as historically inaccurate, particularly in its treatment of Beethoven's love life.

Algiers hit by pylon saboteurs

Tunis: Parts of Algiers, the Algerian capital, have been blacked out by power cuts believed to be the result of sabotage, and a central food store was blown up and burnt in an attack by 40 armed men, media and diplomatic sources said yesterday.

Newspapers said Muslim extremists had blown up power pylons supplying the capital. The cuts started last Wednesday and would last another three to four days, officials said. *(Reuter)*

Ex-magistrate in press scuffle

Rome: Antonio Di Pietro, the former Milan magistrate involved in the war on Italian corruption, came to blows with journalists who have been stalking him since his resignation this month. He scuffled with a reporter and took a roll of film from a photographer. *(Reuter)*

Danish blasts

Copenhagen: Two explosions hit the Danish capital at the weekend, and police said they could be linked. The first was outside an annex of the parliament, the second was in a central street. *(AP)*

African plague

Harare: Bubonic plague has killed 22 people and infected about 300 since being detected in Zimbabwe in October. The Government said, adding that no new cases had been seen in the past ten days. *(AP)*

Gaza apology

Jerusalem: Palestinian police apologised for an incident in which one of their men fired on Israeli soldiers in the Gaza Strip, saying he acted on his own out of unexplained grief and frustration. *(Reuter)*

Deadly road

Peking: More than 600 people were killed in road accidents in China last month, a rise of 3.7 per cent over the total for November last year, the Government said. *(Reuter)*

Business seeks end of Rock controls

FROM DOMINIQUE SEARLE IN GIBRALTAR

ON THE eve of talks between Britain and Spain concerning allegations that Gibraltar is being used as a money-laundering centre, the chambers of commerce and trade unions on both sides of the frontier jointly called yesterday for an end to such crimes.

At the same time, they said restrictions at the border must be lifted and both countries should call for European Union aid to assist the region.

Javier Solana, the Spanish Foreign Minister, meets Douglas Hurd, his British counterpart, for informal talks outside London tonight. The ministers will then head their respective negotiating teams tomorrow in a fresh round of formal discussions on the future of the colony, which juts from the Costa del Sol and over which Spain claims sovereignty.

The talks are being held against a background of mutual acrimony over tough new Spanish controls on the border with Gibraltar since the end of October, ostensibly aimed at curbing flagrant tobacco and drug-running between the Rock and Spain. Britain has protested and demanded the lifting of the controls.

New White House shooting revives plans for traffic ban

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE prospect of streets around the White House being permanently closed was revived yesterday after an apparent drive-by shooting breached the building's security for the third time in three months.

One of four bullets fired from a 9mm semi-automatic handgun penetrated a window of the State Dining Room, directly below Mr and Mrs Clinton's bedroom.

The force of the bullet had been largely spent by the time it had travelled up to several hundred yards. It left a tiny hole in the window that initially went undetected under a Christmas wreath.

The bullet exposed a Washington myth that all the White House windows are bullet-proof, although bullet-resistant panels are drawn in front of the windows of the State Dining Room when dignitaries are present.

A second bullet was found on an open balcony on the first storey, a third on the driveway and a fourth in the grounds. The shooting came from the direction of a grassy public area known as the Ellipse, which is at the back of the White House. A park police officer guarding the national christmas tree was first to raise the alarm just after two on Saturday morning.

There are no suspects and not even a description of the gunman, even though authorities interviewed potential witnesses, including a number of homeless people who sleep on park benches in the Ellipse.

The Clintons were woken by Secret Service agents to make sure they were safe. The couple had not heard the shooting.

Vice President Al Gore, speaking later in Atlanta, said it could well be that the shots were not directed at Mr Clinton or his family. "I received a briefing that indicated a distinct possibility that it was not in any way related to the president," he told reporters. In Washington, which has the country's third highest per capita murder rate, drive-by shootings are not that unusual, though rare for the White House area.

In a sad commentary on the spreading violence, Carl Meyer, a Secret Service spokesman, said: "There are bullets raining all over Washington. We are exploring the possibility that this was just a couple of stray bullets that came in."

The issue of banning traffic and screening pedestrians in the area will be taken up by a task force that was already considering presidential security as a result of the two previous incidents.

The idea will be unpopular with tourists and residents. One of Washington's main attractions is having the White House in the midst of the city's life, accessible and easily seen through its iron railings from Pennsylvania Avenue at the front and E Street at the back.

Leon Panetta, Mr Clinton's Chief of Staff, agreed that Mr Clinton does not want to turn the White House into a fortress. But the Secret Service is likely to push for an expanded secure area free of traffic.

In September, a despondent lorry driver was killed when his light aircraft crashed on the White House lawn and came to rest against the window of the ground-floor medical office below the Clintons' bedroom. They were not at home.

At the end of October, a 26-year-old Colorado man, Francisco Duran, sprayed the front of the White House with semi-automatic weapons fire while Mr Clinton was upstairs watching television. Duran has been charged with attempted assassination.

Mr Meyer said there was no indication that the incidents were related, but publicity generated by one attack always ran the risk of inciting other "copy-cat" incidents.

Clinton mail vetted

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT Clinton is to get help from a British-based company in dealing with a bombardment of electronic mail, including death threats.

Thousands of unsolicited computer messages are sent into the White House computer system every day on the Internet, the "information super-highway". A small army of volunteers sifts through the messages of support and criticism from lobbyists, lunatics and the malevolent.

From March, however, a computer programme developed in Swindon, Wiltshire will replace the volunteers and analyse and pigeon-hole the E-mail. One of the problems facing the programmers was how to distinguish between threatening and simply critical messages — for instance "kill the bill" and "kill Bill".

Gordon Olson, managing director of Kinesis, the Swindon company which developed the computer software, said: "There is a growing technique by lobbyists to use mail-storming, bombarding the White House with electronic mail. We have learned how to distinguish between this and a genuine groundswell of support or criticism for something."

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House of Rhett Butler's birth to rise from Atlanta ashes

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

LIKE Rhett Butler to the rescue, the German car maker Daimler-Benz has stepped in to save the ruined Atlanta home of Margaret Mitchell, author of *Gone with the Wind*, even though most Atlantans, frankly, don't give a damn.

Last September someone set fire to the house where Mitchell wrote America's most famous novel between 1925 and 1932, destroying the roof and most of the interior, although the two-room basement flat once occupied by the writer was undamaged.

However, many residents of Atlanta, anxious to shake off the old-fashioned image of Southern slavery represented by the book seemed to wish the arsonist had been more successful. Mitchell herself referred to the house as "the dump". It was abandoned in 1978, becoming a home for vagrants and visited only by the occasional, determined tourist.

Nobody bothered to complain three months ago when a performance artist covered the building with 40,000 inflated surgical gloves, and when the arsonist struck some residents were quietly relieved that an embarrassing eyesore had finally gone with the wind.

But now Mercedes-Benz has announced plans to restore the building in time for the Atlanta Olympics in 1996. "One of the reasons we got into this project is that we, like everybody else all, are familiar with *Gone with the Wind*, the company told *The New York Times*. The other reason may be that the German car maker, which recently announced plans for a new $300 million (£192 million) manufacturing plant in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, is clearly keen to bolster its corporate image in America. During the Olympics the company will use the house as a hospitality centre before donating it to the city as a tourist attraction.

Mitchell died in 1949, but the vivid, romantic world she created has helped to make Atlanta one of the most popular tourist destinations in America.

Even if the locals are less than enthusiastic about that enduring, antiquated image, they have no objection to the tourist revenue it brings.



Margaret Mitchell's house is to be restored in time for the 1996 Olympics



هذا من الاصل

هكذا من الأصل



Mandela concedes improvement for blacks is too slow

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN BLOEMFONTEIN

PRESIDENT Mandela, opening the forty-ninth African National Congress conference at the weekend, called on its members urgently to redouble their efforts to hasten "visible change" in South Africa.

"The real measure of success or failure of the conference will be whether ... we take decisions that bring practical relief to the millions who so graphically demonstrated their confidence in the ANC and in democracy last April," he told 3,000 delegates in Bloemfontein, the Orange Free State city where the ANC was founded in 1912.

The party's historic first post-election conference is being held against a background of growing grassroots perception that the ANC-led Government has been slow to implement manifesto pledges. Conceding that planning may have been sluggish, Mr Mandela said bureaucratic reform was now a priority.

Visible change could come only through a clear economic strategy for growth, with a reduction in the budget deficit and the elimination of waste as prime aims. He said he understood that fiscal discipline and macro-economic stability irritated those "impatient about change", but insisted it was the only way forward.

The ANC has recently come under pressure to focus more attention on the needs of the black majority. But President Mandela, warning against populism, reiterated his commitment to non-racism and reconciliation with whites.

His speech was warmly received. "I think people are prepared to accept the President's call to be patient," said Attwell Skolo, 49, a senior ANC official from Transkei. "But next year we must start to show we are able to build a nation to stifle discontent."

With local government elections next year, the buzzword at the conference is unity. Several speakers echoed Mr Mandela's rallying call for "one ANC". Walter Sisulu, 82, the outgoing ANC deputy president, said to loud cheers: "The challenge before us demands we remain united."

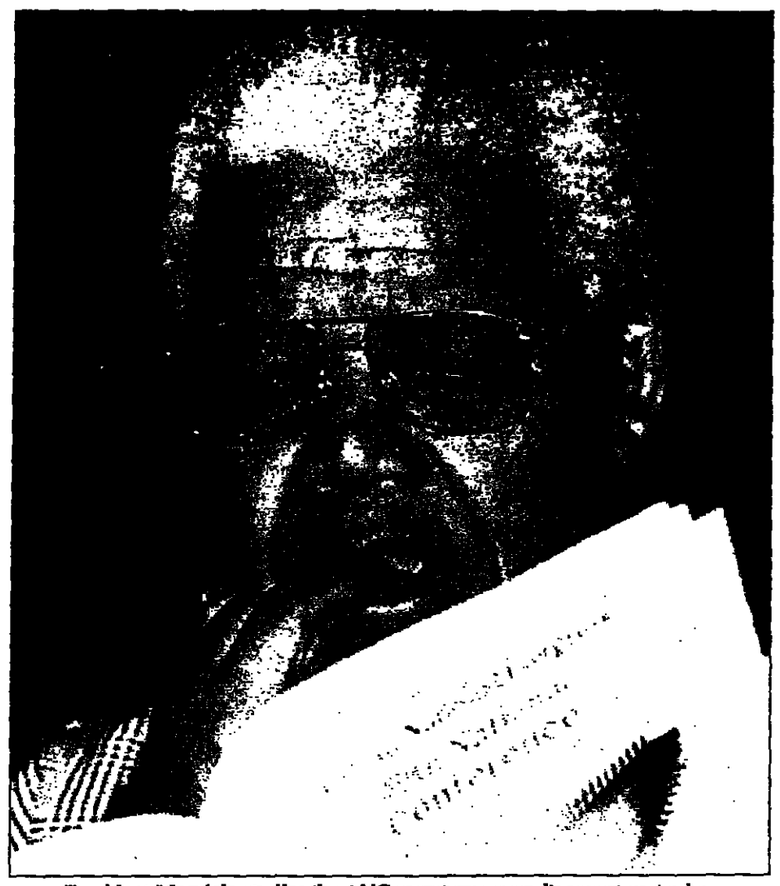
The elections come at a time of soul-searching for an organisation with a declining membership and with its opinion-poll ratings on the slide. Cyril Ramaphosa, the ANC's secretary-general, conceded yesterday that the party had huge election debts and acknowledged that problems afflicting party organisation could hamper its ability to govern effectively.

In a stirring speech, Mr Ramaphosa painted a bleak picture of an ANC beset by leadership problems, poor discipline, mismanagement and financial chaos. "If shortcomings in the work of the organising department ... are not addressed ... the ANC will not be in a position to meet many challenges it now faces," he said.

The shortcomings focus on a top-heavy leadership failing to work with party structures. With the dependence on exhausted foreign funding, no comprehensive plans have been developed to make the ANC financially self-sufficient. The lack of financial discipline, particularly from the youth and women's leagues, has resulted in an enormous strain on resources.

Mr Ramaphosa declared that, if the ANC were to ensure success in the forthcoming elections, its structures would have to be revived and rebuilt. He suggested that the party encourage a "culture of contribution" to redress the financial imbalance. Furthermore, MPs should become more accountable to the party's grassroots through a "code of conduct".

Leading article, page 17



President Mandela studies the ANC secretary-general's report yesterday

Winnie sued over £9,000 jet bill

BY INIGO GILMORE

WINNIE MANDELA is being sued for alleged non-payment of a charter flight which was used in a failed diamond-buying operation in Angola, according to affidavits by two of her business associates.

Reports in the Johannesburg *Sunday Times* claimed that President Mandela's estranged wife allegedly chartered the Lear jet last year in the name of a welfare organisation to fly business associates to Luanda to collect a "package" from President dos Santos of Angola.

Among the passengers were Alan Fanaroff, who was convicted of illegal diamond-buying in 1991, Ben du Preez, an import dealer, Prince Muzi Domaini, Mrs Mandela's son-in-law, and John Lawrence, her driver, who was shot in Johannesburg last year.

In papers before the Rand Supreme Court, Mr Faranoff said: "When we arrived, we were taken to the President's palace. Winnie told us that a package would be waiting for us. But Dos Santos had no idea we were coming. The deal was called off."

Mrs Mandela is being sued by Foster Webb Air Charter for alleged non-payment of 53,000 rands (£9,600), the charter fee. In a separate case, the charter firm is also suing Sandton estate agent, Isaac Brainin, who introduced Mrs Mandela to Mr de Preez.

The proposed diamond deal emerged in affidavits filed by Mr Brainin and Mr du Preez in the former's defence. Harry Nochumsohn, appearing for the charter firm, said the agreement between the company and Mrs Mandela was that she would pay for the flight with a bank-guaranteed cheque. Mrs Mandela is alleged to have given Mr Brainin a post-dated cheque.

Mrs Mandela was then the executive officer for Co-ordinated Anti-Poverty Programmes (Capp) and used its letterhead to confirm the flight. "This is the first I hear of Capp's involvement in buying diamonds," said Moses Chikane, a member of the charity's board.

Mrs Mandela is challenging the application for payment and claims she was acting on behalf of Mr du Preez. In her affidavit, she said Mr du Preez asked her to assist him in chartering an aircraft to Angola.

Eight die in day of Karachi violence

FROM REUTER IN KARACHI

EIGHT people were killed in violence in Karachi yesterday as strikes called separately by a militant Sunni Muslim group and a transport union paralysed the commercial capital of Pakistan.

Key business centres and markets in the city of ten million people remained shut and many people stayed indoors, fearing violence during the strike called by the Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan Sunni group. No business was conducted on the almost empty floor of the stock exchange, which closed at midday.

Three people were killed and five wounded when paramilitary rangers opened fire on a crowd trying to prevent arrests in Karachi's East district, witnesses said. They said the rangers arrested ten people in the area, described by police as a stronghold of Tehrik-e-Jafria Pakistan, a militant Shia Muslim group that is locked in a feud with the Sunnis.

A pedestrian was killed when gunmen in a car sprayed bullets at shops in western Karachi that were defying the strike call. A person shot at from a car in the city centre died of his wounds. A lorry driver died when a hail of bullets hit his vehicle in the west of the city. Two other people were killed in hit-and-run attacks.

The Sunni strike, to protest at the killing of eight people in a mosque on December 7, coincided with a strike by the Karachi Transport Unity union, angered by a wave of arson attacks on public transport. A union spokesman said at least 50 vehicles had been burned in the past two days and the Government had failed to offer protection.

Ethnic, sectarian and political violence has claimed at least 135 lives in Karachi this month. Tensions have mounted since the army ended a 29-month deployment in the city on November 30.

Denial by colony of air safety cover-up

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

THE Hong Kong Government has rejected charges of "a monumental cover-up" for failing to provide safe air transport for the repatriation of boat people to Vietnam. But members of the Legislative Council, the colony's parliament, are calling for an investigation and a newspaper has demanded that officials should resign.

The allegations appeared in the English-language newspaper *Eastern Express*, which quoted from a confidential government document. This raised questions about the safety of a Hercules plane, which had been used for ferrying boat people back to Vietnam from Hong Kong before it crashed in the colony's Victoria Harbour on September 23, carrying only its crew, six of whom died.

A senior colony official was quoted as accusing the Government of " a cover-up". The Government rejected the allegations and said that the aircraft was authorised to carry passengers.

Christine Loh, a Legislative Council member, has called on the Government to publish its confidential report. She said yesterday: "Put most charitably, the Government is still trying to fool itself that it has not done anything wrong. At worst, it knows, and is covering up."



Loh: called for official report to be published

Sins of the fathers

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN JERUSALEM

WHEN Massud Cohen fell in love with Chochana Hadad and asked for her hand in marriage, he had no idea one of her distant ancestors had committed a sin against Jewish law 2,500 years ago.

But Israel's high rabbinate remembered and has prevented the couple from marrying for ten years, the *Yediot Aharonot* daily newspaper reported yesterday.

In 580 BC Miss Hadad's erring relative, known as a "Cohen", or priest, in Hebrew, left the promised land to live on the island of Djerba in Tunisia. He married a divorcee, so breaking a Jewish law for priests which was then in turn imposed on all his descendants.

As a result, the Galilee rabbinate has ruled that Miss Hadad, a spinster, cannot marry Mr Cohen, 45, because he is divorced.

The couple have tried to find more forgiving rabbis to marry them, but to no avail. The high rabbinate has told them that their recently born child will remain illegitimate.

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ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



VISUAL ART

Rubens meets Lucian Freud: new paintings by Britain's leading figurative artist join the Old Masters at Dulwich

OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



MUSICALS

Hooked on a children's classic J.M. Barrie's *Peter Pan* returns to the London stage at the Cambridge Theatre

FIRST NIGHT: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



MUSIC

A feast of Christmas song at the Wigmore, as Elizabeth Connell sings seasonal music from Fauré to Jerry Herman

RECITAL: Tuesday
REVIEW: Thursday



DANCE

Going nut crackers: rival productions of Tchaikovsky's ballet open at the Colisenm and the Festival Hall

FIRST NIGHTS: Wed, Thur
REVIEW: Next Week

Green shoots of Verdi burst into flower

DONALD COOPER



John Tomlinson, as the Count, and Rita Cullis (Leonora), in a scene from Verdi's *Oberto*

John Tomlinson's revival of the master's first surviving opera is a triumph for both men, says **Rodney Milnes**

To revive *Oberto, Conte di San Bonifacio* — Verdi's first surviving opera — is more than just an act of piety. The 26-year-old composer's work was premiered at La Scala in 1839, three years before *Nabucco*, and enjoyed a respectable run of 14 performances. Some of the music is pretty rough and ready: some is out of early 19th-century stock, but it is good stock; occasionally very fine, with many a pre-echo of what was to come — which is also true of the plot.

The elderly Count of the title (bass) is obsessed with taking revenge on the tenor who, having seduced and abandoned his daughter Leonora (soprano), is about to marry the mezzo Cunizza. The old man is killed by the tenor in a duel, and the soprano is left single and in despair at curtain-fall. Parallels with *Rigoletto* are plain to see.

Indeed, fathers and daughters are a recurring theme in Verdi operas, and it is in their big duet in the first act that we first hear music that could not be by anyone else: a tenderly rising phrase in the middle movement simply shouts "Verdi" at you. Oberto's *cavatina* and *cabaletta* in the second act have authentically Verdian elemental power, and the fine quartet that follows includes a phrase that returns in the chorus after the murder of Duncan in *Macbeth*. Add a beautiful Prayer for the remorseful tenor, some marvellously energetic *stretttas*, and you have much of the essential Verdi.

The process by which John Tomlinson found himself producing Opera North's staging at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, as well as singing the title role, was outlined by John Higgins in his interview with the bass last week. His notion of updating the action to the early 20th century to emphasise the generation gap between the reactionary old father and a more hedonistic society is in principle a good one: Leonora in her grey woollen cardie bursting in on a bevy of *Brideshead* flappers makes a point, but maybe having the flappers jigging about in time to the tenor's *cabaletta* trivialises music that does not need much help in that direction.

But Tomlinson goes further than that, in a misguided attempt to clarify the action. He turns Cunizza's unseen brother into a Mussolini-style dictator, and brings him on in the first finale; there are elaborate dumb-shows in the introductions to both acts, the first quite incomprehensible if you have not read the programme synopsis (Tomlinson's, not Verdi's) at least twice. There is also an alarmingly high incidence of dipsomania among the gentlemen of the chorus, for reasons that remain obscure.

But Verdi's action is perfectly clear already, and for much of the time Tomlinson wisely lets his soloists stand and deliver. He himself, as much a force of nature as a bass, sweeps all before him in a performance of pole-axing power. Rita Cullis is a touching Leonora, the gleaming top of her voice as athletic and secure as always. Linda Finnie brings uncommon conviction to Cunizza: she is one of those artists who can sing a line like "Oh, quale orror" and really mean it. An apology was made for David Maxwell Anderson as the tenor Riccardo, but he sang with his customary force and managed an affecting account of the prayer.

David Porcelijn brought splendid energy to his conducting, and managed to avoid falling into the dreaded waltz trap: his rhythms were too tight for that. Chorus and orchestra — I need hardly add since we were in Leeds — were first-rate.

Schubert with added charm

Monteverdi Choir/ Gardiner
Queen Elizabeth Hall

FLEXIBLE though I know him to be, I had somehow never got round to thinking of John Eliot Gardiner as one of life's natural Schubertians. This delightful concert with the Monteverdi Choir — which included ten examples from that great body of sorely neglected work, the partsongs — proved that he is.

He chose the music carefully, which helped to keep the charm level high throughout the evening. So did Malcolm Bilson's two solo fortepiano interludes, consisting of three beautifully played Moments Musicaux from the second set, D780, and an exquisitely coloured, spacious and warm reading of the F minor Impromptu, D935.

There were only the opening "An die Sonne", a forthrightly martial song, and the closing "Gebet", a complex although essentially hymn-like farewell, for all of the 34 young singers, and for that matter only two songs — the lovely Psalm 23 and the even lovelier "Gott in der Nature" — for female choir. But "Gebet" gave four excellent soloists from each register (Angela Kazimierczuk, Lynette Alcantara, Robert Johnston and Noel Mann) the opportunity to shine.

Alcantara also excelled in "Standchen", her pure, light and wonderfully natural style echoed by the male voices over a pounding piano accompaniment. The tenor Julian Podger's youthful tones suited well the magical textures of the a cappella "'Mondenschein'"; equally well-matched were those of Robert Johnson in another nocturnal song, "Nachthelle", although Johnston seemed a touch nervous at less than full power, leading to one or two flattish high notes in what is a terrifyingly high part. But what gorgeously lit textures, as silvery as are Seidl's words of wonderment, and with what exquisite delicacy Gardiner and his choir realised them.

Goethe's "Gesang der Geister uber den Wassern" is quite a different matter, a test of philosophical profundity about the state of man's soul. To clinch the right flavour Schubert accompanies his male voice textures with a dark-hued quintet of two violas, two cellos and bass.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Served piping hot

Lammas
Purcell Room

LAMMAS sprang from the shared fascination of the two founder members, poet/guitarist Don Paterson and saxophonist Tim Garland, for Celtic folk from Brittany, Scotland and Ireland, improvised jazz and classical music. Now a quintet featuring Uillean piper/bodhran player Steafan Hannigan, drummer Mark Fletcher and singer Christine Tobin, the band have struck a chord with audiences countrywide: they are about to complete a national tour, they have produced two well-received albums; and last year they were named Best Small Ensemble at the British Jazz Awards.

In the formal but intimate surroundings of the Purcell Room, the reason was not difficult to identify: all the band's members have an infectious enthusiasm for each other's music. They have created an original fusion of the keening earnestness of traditional music, the unpredictable inventiveness of jazz and — especially on Garland's "Circle Suite" — the structure of classical music.

The concert's opener, Hannigan's "The Barnsley Abacus", was an arousing jig led by his plangent pipes but its improvisatory spirit came from jazz, and Garland's sinuous soprano solo negotiated the tune's twists with aplomb.

Conversely, the saxophonist's tenor-led threnody on the death of jazz drummer Ed Blackwell, "Farewell to Ed", while springing from a freish jazz idiom, led without contrivance into an old Irish dulcimer melody.

Moreover, in singer Christine Tobin, who joined Lammas halfway through their first set to add her smoky, wordless vocal to Garland's tricksy folk theme, "Wind Song", they have a priceless asset. At home with the plaintive purity of folk laments and the sophisticated virtuosity demanded by jazz, she might have been specially created to sing with the band.

CHRIS PARKER

Back for a Bible belter

ROCK

The Bible
Borderline, WC2

IT HAS been four years since the Bible parted company to pursue solo projects, and in the interim lead singer Boo Hewerdine has acquired a new physical gravitas. He was always tall and broad-shouldered, but now some barber has given him a number-four crop and he has cultivated a goatee. As a result he looks vaguely menacing, until he begins to sing.

The Bible are a rock band for people who do not drop litter, are kind to animals and who help old ladies across the road. Which is fine: there are plenty of other groups willing to punch you in the stomach and grab your wallet. Cambridge-based Hewerdine and his right-hand man, guitarist Neil MacColl, always preferred a more considered approach. Their previous releases were gems of thoughtfulness and good breeding, blessed with fine musicianship, chiming melodies and acute lyrics, the sort of thing that gives rock'n'roll a bad name. Recently Hewerdine has deployed his skills in collaboration with Scottish singer-songwriters Gary Clark and Eddi Reader, while MacColl has fronted his own, underrated band, the Liberty Horses. Everyone agreed that it was good to have them back together again, though.

On this small basement stage, there was little room for five players and a portfolio of exhibitionist poses, but Hewerdine did a good job of looking like a rock hero while standing on the spot. There were some of the best of the old songs — "Graceland", "Sky Writing", the glorious "Honey Be Good" — but also a number of fine new ones. "Dreamlife", "Mosquito" and "Explaining Love to Aliens" are less obviously pop-friendly than the older songs but thrilled the adoring crowd.

ALAN JACKSON

Passion for a Patti?

OVERTURES

ACTRESS-singer **Patti LuPone**, whose firing from the Broadway production of *Sunset Boulevard* resulted in a payoff reportedly in the region of $1 million, is coming back to the West End. Broadway's original Eva Peron in *Evita* is expected to head the London cast of *Passion* when the **Stephen Sondheim** show opens on the West End in August, produced by **Bill Kenwright**. LuPone was originally considered for the musical's Broadway company earlier this year, but the New York producers decided to stick with **Donna Murphy**, who had played the predatory Fosca in an earlier workshop at the Lincoln Centre.

● ANOTHER American due for a return appearance in London, but not until 1996, is playwright **Tony Kushner**, whose *Slavs!* has just opened in London. Kushner, best known for *Angels in America*, is apparently writing a history play, *Henry Box Brown*, in response to a joint commission from the National Theatre and the Joseph Papp Public Theatre in New York. Telling of the relationship between the textile industry in 19th-century Britain and slavery in America, the play will be premiered at the National under the direction of **George C. Wolfe**, artistic director of the Public.

● THE Royal Ballet's French star, **Sylvie Guillem**, teams up with the Béjart Ballet Lausanne when the Swiss company comes to Sadler's Wells this winter (February 28 to March 4). In the season's opening gala she will perform *Episodes*, the 1992 tribute to gay Italian film-maker Pier Paulo Pasolini devised by her and **Maurice Béjart**.

● FIRST prize in this year's Mobil Playwriting Competition has gone to **Kate Dean**. She picks up £15,000 for *The Stolen Child*, a play about travellers and farming folk in contemporary rural England. Joint second prize was shared by **Bill Taylor** and **Naomi Wallace**.

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

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THEATRE

High Victorian cross-dressing when the Royal Exchange in Manchester revives *Charley's Aunt*

FIRST NIGHT: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



POP

More than a hair's breadth from Texas: pop's bearded veterans, ZZ Top, bring their hard rock show to Wembley

GIG: Thursday
REVIEW: Monday



FILM

Sly Stallone gets to grips with Sharon Stone in *The Specialist*, a tale of lust and revenge in the underworld

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



BOOKS

Mad about the girl: *Lolita*, the book and the film, is examined in a new BFI study by Richard Corliss

IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Saturday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

THEATRE: Restoration comedy; old-style panto; Toad bids hail and farewell

Etherege but no edge

The Man of Mode
Royal Court

One of the many pleasures of Stephen Jeffreys's new *Libertine* is watching Etherege defensively breaking to the rake Rochester that he is the inspiration for the hero of the still untitled play he is writing. "You've made me *endearing*, haven't you?" asks the earl with undisguised contempt; and the dramatist does not deny it. As Jeffreys goes on to suggest, it is frothy Restoration myth and not sordid Restoration reality that Etherege was in the business of celebrating.

The piece he was penning was, of course, *The Man of Mode*. Towards the end of Jeffreys's play, its hero, Dorimant, is actually heard charming the town while Rochester himself is seen lurching haplessly about the theatre wings. And now Out of Joint, the company which last week brought us *The Libertine*, is pushing the contrast further still. For the next month its production of Etherege's original will be playing in tandem with Jeffreys's cynical gloss on it.

If you wish to see both, I would suggest a trip to *The Man of Mode* first. It is better to get some sense of the periwigs before they are lifted to reveal the lice beneath. But then I am not sure I can recommend Max Stafford-Clark's revival of *The Man of Mode* nearly as strongly as his production of *The Libertine*. He is one of our tougher-minded directors; but with Etherege he is obliged to be unwontedly bland. If he were not, he would risk undermining the *raison d'être* of Jeffreys's play.

Occasionally, it looks as if we may get the kind of realism William Gaskill, Jonathan Miller and others aimed at when they directed Restoration or 18th-century comedies. David Westhead, Rochester in *The Libertine* and Dorimant here, makes his first entrance in his nightshirt holding what is evidently a fullish chamber pot. A bit later the stage directions require him to parade about his lodgings in "a gown"; instead, he appears naked except for a towel, and is evidently recovering from a sexual encounter with Cathryn Bradshaw's Bellinda, who is in a black slip. But these are isolated gestures and serve only to emphasise how lacking in incisive observation the production is.

After all, Etherege himself is not bland or wet. If he does not exactly show us the lice beneath those wigs, he certainly suggests there are grubby fingers behind the fans. Dorimant is cool and witty, elegant and urbane, but he deceives and uses women without remorse. He palms off Katrina Levon's ragingly resentful Mrs Loveit on a fop in order to pursue his amour with Bradshaw's demure Bellinda, and then turns his attention to Amanda Drew's Harriet, who has money as well as beauty and good humour. Whether or not he will prove a faithful husband, his tale does nothing to contradict Loveit's view, which is that "all men are villains or fools".

But though Westhead's Dorimant is not as glamorous as an old-style production might suggest, he comes across as an affable sort of fellow, with little of the offhanded cruelty Etherege attributed to him. There, everywhere, Stafford-Clark has refused to darken or sharpen the text. Sir Fopling Flutter, the fashion-mad peacock of the title, is played by Tim Potter as a pristine Danny la Rue with rouged cheeks, and there is little edge to the performances around him. Does that prove that Etherege was economical with the truth? No, only that Stafford-Clark is economical with Etherege.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

DONALD COOPER

Katrina Levon as Mrs Loveit and Tim Potter as Sir Fopling Flutter in an underpowered *Man of Mode*

Old puns are still the best

Babes in the Wood
Sadler's Wells

GAP-toothed and grinning, Roy Hudd brings classic pantomime back to Sadler's Wells with a bang. A blinding flare goes off in the footlights for the arrival of the Sherwood fairy (although quite what she was doing in the story I failed to see). There's a flying sequence for the more balletic birds of the forest. An unexpected Oxo cube scudded to a stop on my notepad: Hudd — playing the hopelessly nice robber who lets the kidnapped babes give him the slip — was showering the audience with food.

Kitted out like a couple of cuddly Punchinelli, 'Orrible 'Uddy and his ineffectual partner in crime, Evil Eddie (Geoffrey *Coronation Street* Hughes), club each other with rubber cudgels and hear the birdsong of the concussed. Meanwhile, Keith Barron's campily evil Sheriff Of Nottingham, the babes' uncle, positively spurs us on to boo him to kingdom come.

Babes in the Wood is also an extravaganza of scene and costume changes. Jack Tripp, the most delightful dame in town, models an entire wardrobe of battleaxe frocks in eye-watering colours.

The 19th-century staging elements are not only a matter of excitement for dusty professors of pantomime. They are fresh because they are rarely seen. When Tripp's Nurse is drafted in for a schoolma'am sketch she pulls out an old-style slapstick to whack bottoms, its two wooden slats smacking loudly together.

The set is in the Victorian vein, with huge painted dropcloths. A leafy lakeside for the frontcloth scenes is as impressive as it is sentimental.

I was not as convinced, however, by contemporary ingredients stirred into the show. The topical jokes are not sharply turned, and the throwaway allusions to brand names seemed so unintegrated I began to wonder if they weren't so much tongue-in-cheek as brass-in-pocket. Cadbury's do deserve a mention here for sponsoring pantomime on a major scale. However, the plugging of the company during the show is hard to stomach. The babes are provided with a Finger of Fudge, presumably to fend off starvation for a sugary finale. Leggy Robin Hood and Maid Marion seem to have nothing better to do than sing sweet nothings, attended by medieval lads in lycra hose.

The chorus line of little girls, members of the Babette Langford Young Set, may end up being permanently scarred by their pearly smiles. And the storyline hardly gets a look-in. But really this is Variety: a feast of enormously silly sketches and skilfully executed clowning. The sight of Tripp, coiffed like a bright orange poodle, pirouetting to expose his nappy-sized knickers, will not soon be forgotten.

KATE BASSETT

MARILYN KINGWILL



Julie Mullins and Roy Hudd in *Babes in the Wood*

Toad of the year

Wind in the Willows
Olivier

RUMOUR has it that this latest revival of the National's winter treat will be the last. But rumour has had that before. My hope is that Nicholas Hytner's production, here re-created by Edward Kemp, will remain in the repertoire for as long as the rotating drum in the centre of the Olivier's arena stage continues to function, rising, descending and rising again to reveal the underground residences of Rat, Badger and Mole, and for as long as the acting profession can supply us with ebullient actors up to the task of playing the egregious Toad.

This year's green bouncer is Patrick Barlow, aka Desmond Olivier Dingle of the National Theatre of Brent. Make-up gives him a wide, turned-down mouth that sags open at moments of misery to become a portrait of amphibian despair. When he feigns death in his bath-chair, confusing Rat with Mrs Alving and wailing, like Oswald, for the sun, he flings his bent arms up beside his head in the posture of every hapless toad squashed flat on a footpath.

Alan Bennett's affectionately witty adaptation conjures up an Edwardian's idealised vision of an England content in its class structure, where a working-class Mole, most sympathetically played by a hunched, shuffling Crispin Letts, does not resent having his manners corrected by Michael Jayston's nannyish Rat; and where even the creatures of the Wild Wood — cockney gangsters sinuously hurrying about the stage — will be reformed at last.

Bennett alters the original Kenneth Grahame to introduce twinges of jealousy in Rat when Mole looks like switching admiration to Michael Bryant's Badger, but this gives depth to the characters. Barry Stanton is once again the Brummie horse, Albert, whose attempts at self-improvement are frustrated by an unthinking upper class. Touches like this give the adaptation a vigour streets ahead of the A.A. Milne version that held the stage for so long.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Mr Bennett, meet Mr Hockney

Michael Church enjoys the tale of Yorkshire's two artistic doubles

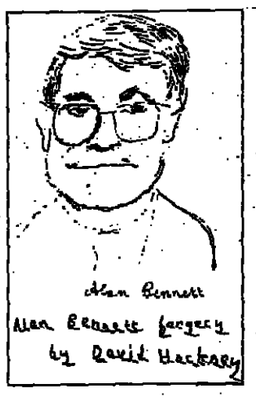
"AN Evening With Alan Bennett at Salts Mill" says the programme, but the portrait on the cover prompts a double-take. The Fifties grammar school hair is there, but the square jaw and wide prankster's mouth belong to someone else. "Alan Bennett forgery by David Hockney". But — hang on — this is David Hockney.

While Saturday night's audience gathers in this converted textile mill near Bradford, playwright and prankster pose in front of a more convoluted jape. It is a photo of Bennett mimicking the pose of Hockney who is himself mimicking Bennett's pose in a publicity shot. Bennett says their tale of mistaken identity began last year with some women in Arezzo, Italy congratulating him on his paintings, and the playwright — eager not to disappoint — doing them a drawing of himself and signing it "David Hockney". Hockney says it began in 1960, when he was asked for his autograph by fans of *Beyond the Fringe*. And only two days ago, Bennett had been hailed for his graphic wizardry as he emerged from the gallery we are standing in, which is designed by Hockney and stuffed with his drawings.

Though they deny prior collusion, both men are wearing green shirts, red ties and sludgy jackets. A photo opportunity? You bet. Richard Whiteley is here with his cameras for YTV. One final thing, he says. Since the magic hour is approaching, would you, Alan, do us the honour of reading out the winning lottery number? Bennett's reply is sharp: "I'm sorry, but I don't approve of the lottery." All that money should have gone to charity, he says.

As it happens, that is where the proceeds of this evening's dinner and performance are going: £30,000 to the Yorkshire Children's Hospital Trust, to help to buy a portable heart scanner. Bennett earns his supper with tragic-comic tales about his friend Russell Harty, his enemy Mrs Thatcher, crematoria, his mother's memory loss and *obiter dicta* culled at bus stops. Then he is joined by Hockney and the poet Tony Harrison — another local lad — for a question and answer session.

People ask about Yorkshire mothers, the role of the artist, and whether the trio ever feel artistic jealousy. Then Harrison announces his own plan to yoke them together. He is writing an opera about an eccentric Victorian who painted exotic birds and championed the use of quinine. Hockney will play the youthful hero, Bennett the hero in old age. Well, why not?



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THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
▨ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

AIN'T MISBEHAVIN' The Fats Waller musical show: an evening of stomping, tapping, exuberant song and dance. Trieycle, Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (071-328 1000). Now previewing Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Sats and Dec 26, 28, 29, 4pm. Opens Jan 9 No perf Dec 24. ▨

☐ **THE CHILDREN'S HOUR** Clare Higgins and Harriet Walter as two schoolteachers accused of being lovers by a brat student. Lillian Hellman's powerful drama from 1934, directed by Howard Davies
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight, 7.30pm. ▨

▨ **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** John Mortimer's adaptation, Ian Judge's direction and Clive Francis's Scrooge make this a cosy evening, well removed from the moral fervour of Dickens.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight-Dec 29, 7.15pm; mats Dec 22 and 27. Again from Jan 4. ▨

☐ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE** Nigel Hawthorne amusing as the dilapidated Lord Ogleby but his direction prettifies and diminishes the play. Some clever supporting performances.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sats and Dec 21 and 28, 2.30pm; Dec 29, 3pm. No performances Dec 24, 25

▨ **FASCINATING AIDA** The girls are back with an evening of glamour, quick wits and sharp tongues.
Garrick, Charing Cross Rd, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 5pm and 8.15pm. No perf Dec 26, Jan 2.

▨ **GRIMM TALES** Tim Supple's superb staging of these really bloodthirsty fables. An amazing evening. Unforgettable
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363). Mon-Sat, at different times No perf Dec 24-26 ▨

▨ **MOLLY SWEENEY** Brian Friel directs his own superb play: Catherine Byrne, Mark Lambert and T P McKenna voice feelings to do with blindness, illusion and much more
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Tonight-Fri, 8pm Final week. ▨

OLIVER! Lavish revival of Bart's merry musical Low on social comment, big on tunes. Jonathan Pryce as Fagin.
Palladium, Argyll St, W1 (071-494 5020) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. ▨

☐ **A PASSIONATE WOMAN** Stephanie Cole plays a woman who'd rather sit on the roof and dream than attend her son's wedding. Ned Sherrin directs Kay Mellor's entertaining, though lightweight comedy.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (071-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 4pm. No perf Dec 24.

☐ **PETER PAN - THE BRITISH MUSICAL** Ron Moody and Nicola Stapleton in a version written, composed and directed by Piers Chater-Robinson
Cambridge, Earlham St, WC2 (071-494 5080). Now previewing, 7.30pm, opens Dec 20, 7pm. Dec 24, 2.30pm only; no perf Dec 26 or 27; Dec 28-31, 2.30 and 7.30pm.

THE RIVALS Richard Cottrell's likeable production from Chichester, with Patricia Routledge's splendidly wild Mrs Malaprop like a lace-encrusted windmill. Limited season.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat 3pm. Until Jan 14.

A TALE OF TWO CITIES Opening night for Alexis Denisof and Timothy Walker in Matthew Francis's version of the Dickens epic. Self-sacrifice, the guillotine and lots of knitting.
Greenwich, Croorne Hill, SE10 (081-858 7755) Tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Dec 26, 27 and Jan 2, 3.30pm; Sats, 2.30pm. No perf Dec 24

☐ **THREE TALL WOMEN** Maggie Smith, Frances de la Tour and Anastasia Hille show how youthful high spirits painfully into grim old age. Superb performances in Edward Albee's powerful drama.
Wyndhams, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-369 1736). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

☐ **THE THREEPENNY OPERA** Tom Hollander sings Macheath in Kurt Weill's opera Words by the team of writers customarily known as "Bertolt Brecht". Phyllida Lloyd's splendidly inventive revival
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham St, WC2 (071-369 1732) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat: 3pm. Dec 24, 3pm only.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Arcadia:** Haymarket (071-930 8800) ☐ **Beautiful Thing**, Duke of York's (071-836 5122) . . ☐ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (071-867 1044) . . . ☐ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . ▨ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) . . ☐ **Copacabana:** Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . . ☐ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner** Duchess (071-494 5070) . . ☐ **Five Guys Named Moe:** Lyric (071-494 5045) ▨ **Grease** Dominion (071-416 6060) ▨ **An Inspector Calls:** Aldwych (071-836 6404) ▨ **Les Misérables**, Palace (071-434 0909) . . ▨ **Miss Saigon**, Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) ☐ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . ☐ **Neville's Island** Apollo (071-494 5070) ☐ **On Approval:** Playhouse (071-839 4401) . . ☐ **Once on This Island:** Island (Royalty), (071-494 5090) ▨ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ▨ **The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie:** Strand (071-930 8800) . . ☐ **The Queen and I:** Vaudeville (071-836 9987) . . ▨ **She Loves Me:** Savoy (071-836 8888) . . ▨ **The Sisters Rosensweig:** Old Vic (071-928 7616) ▨ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . ▨ **Woman in Black:** Fortune (071-836 2238)
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CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

CHASING THE DEER (PG): Cardboard drama about the Jacobite rebellion. With Brian Blessed, Jake D'Arcy, Iain Cuthbertson; director, Graham Holloway.
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631)

GEORGE BALANCHINE'S THE NUTCRACKER (U): The New York City Ballet's famous production, reverently transferred to film with Macaulay Culkin as the Nutcracker Prince. Director, Emile Ardolino.
MGMs: Fulham Rd ▨ (071-370 2636) Tottenham Court Rd (071-636 6148)

◆ **THE NEVERENDING STORY III** (U): Unappealing fantasy with Jason James Richter and a menagerie of dragons, gnomes and talking rocks from Jim Henson's Creature Shop.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Trocadero ▨ (071-434 0031) UCI Whiteleys ▨ (071-792 3332) Warner ▨ (071-437 4343)

ONLY THE STRONG (15): Soldier saves his old high school from drugs. Dull martial arts potboiler, with Mark Dacascos. Director, Sheldon Lettich.
MGM Trocadero ▨ (071-434 0031)

◆ **THE PAGEMASTER** (U): Macaulay Culkin, in cartoon form, enjoys bland adventures in the world of books. Joe Johnston, Maurice Hunt direct.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) Swiss Cottage (0426 914098) West End (0426 915574) UCI Whiteleys ▨ (071-792 3332)

◆ **PRINCESS CARABOO** (PG): Airy, amusing historical diversion, with Phoebe Cates as the mysterious girl believed to be a Far Eastern princess. With Jim Broadbent, John Lithgow, Stephen Rea, Wendy Hughes. Director, Michael Austin.
MGM Trocadero ▨ (071-434 0031) Odeon Swiss Cottage (0426 914098) Plaza (0800 888997) Warner ▨ (071-437 4343)

CURRENT

◆ **CORRINA, CORRINA** (PG): Housemaid Whoopi Goldberg reawakens a household numbed by grief. Increasingly predictable sentimental drama with Ray Liotta and Tina Majorino. Director, Jessie Nelson.
Odeon Kensington (0426 914666) UCI Whiteleys ▨ (071-792 3332) Warner ▨ (071-437 4343)

CRONOS (18): An alchemist's device offers eternal youth and a taste for blood. Imaginative Mexican vampire film from promising director Guillermo del Toro.
Gate ▨ (071-727 4043) Metro (071-437 0757)

◆ **JUNIOR** (PG): Juvenile jokes abound as Arnold Schwarzenegger gets pregnant. With Emma Thompson and Danny DeVito, Director, Ivan Reitman.
Empire ▨ (0800-888 911) MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Trocadero ▨ (071-434 0031) UCI Whiteleys ▨ (071-792 3332)

THE LAST SEDUCTION (18). Enjoyably amoral tale of sex, power and $700,000, with Linda Fiorentino as the femme fatale to end them all. Director, John Dahl.
Electric ▨ (071-792 2020) MGM Piccadilly (071-437 3561)

◆ **THE LION KING** (U): African lion cub almost loses his father's throne. Much hyped but charmless Disney cartoon, not meant for tiny tots.
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Chelsea (071-352 5096) Trocadero ▨ (071-434 0031) Odeons: Haymarket (0426 915353) Kensington (0426 914666) Swiss Cottage (0426 914098) UCI Whiteleys ▨ (792 3332) Warner ▨ (437 4343)

◆ **MARY SHELLEY'S FRANKENSTEIN** (15): Unwieldy, overblown, unenjoyable slog through the famous story. Kenneth Branagh directs and stars with Robert De Niro and Helena Bonham Carter.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) Mezzanine ▨ (0426 915683) Swiss Cottage (0426 914098) Warner ▨ (071-437 4343)

◆ **MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET** (U): John Hughes's gooey but just about digestible remake of the 1947 fantasy, with Richard Attenborough as a department store Santa.
Barbican ▨ (071-638 8891) MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) Leicester Square (0426 915683) Marble Arch (0426 914501) Swiss Cottage (0426 914098) UCI Whiteleys ▨ (792 3332)

MY FAIR LADY (U). Resplendent restored print of the 1964 musical, with Rex Harrison, Audrey Hepburn, very familiar tunes and Edwardian finery galore. Directed by George Cukor.
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 6279)

◆ **THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS** (PG). The King of Hallowe'en tries to take over Christmas. Technically brilliant puppet fantasy conceived by Tim Burton, directed by Henry Selick.
Barbican ▨ (071-638 8891) MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) Swiss Cottage (0426 914098) West End (0426-915 574) Screen/Green (071-226 3520) UCI Whiteleys ▨ (792 3332)

◆ **SPEED** (15): Enjoyable package of thrills, with Keanu Reeves as the SWAT team daredevil faced with a bomb on an LA bus With Sandra Bullock and Dennis Hopper
Odeon West End (0426 915574)

THREE COLOURS: RED (15). Kieślowski's compelling film about criss-crossing lives; a majestic climax to his trilogy. With Irène Jacob and Jean-Louis Trintignant
Chelsea (071-351 3742) Curzon Mayfair (071-369 1720) Lumière (071-836 0691) Phoenix (081-883 2233) Renoir (071-837 8402)

TRIAL BY JURY (15): Will juror Joanna Whatley-Kilmer submit to Mafia pressure? Laughable courtroom drama, with Gabriel Byrne, William Hurt and Armand Assante
MGMs: Fulham Road ▨ (071-370 2636) Trocadero ▨ (071-434 0031) Warner ▨ (071-437 4343)

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Intergalactic fireworks ☐ Genetic marking in the wild ☐ The misery of microchips which miscalculate

A big bang theory



ONE OF THE most baffling puzzles in astrophysics has taken a fresh and even more baffling turn, which will console those who fear scientists are taking all the mystery out of life.

The story starts in 1963, when the Americans launched a series of satellites to try to detect breaches of the treaty banning atmospheric nuclear tests. The Vela satellites found no illicit explosions (or none that we know of) but it did find unexpected sources of gamma rays.

These gamma-ray bursts appeared as if from nowhere and then disappeared just as rapidly. They lasted, on average, only a few seconds and appeared about once a day in random positions. Astronomers were unable to say if they were local — that is, within the solar system — galactic, or even further away, at cosmological distances.

Whatever was causing them had to be a truly prodigious source of energy, since some of the bursters emit between 10 million and 100 million times as much gamma ray energy as the entire Milky Way galaxy. In one week, the energy emitted is the same as if the Sun had been annihilated.

The new twist, described by *Nature* as a "bizarre event", was a burst detected on February 17 that lasted 90 minutes and produced the highest-energy gamma rays yet detected. Frustratingly on this occasion, the Earth interposed itself between the source and the Gamma Ray Observatory, losing an hour of observations. So it is not clear if the emission went on continuously, or was two successive bursts.

The models invoked by astrophysicists to explain gamma-ray bursts are as strange as the events themselves. One of the most popular is the merging of two neutron stars, creating a huge burst of energy, but there is evidence that some bursts repeat themselves, like a firework going off twice.

If the satellite was seeing a double burst, rather than a single, long one, the neutron star model might still apply, if the second burst were caused by material thrown out by the first hitting something else. That something might be a ring of debris around the neutron stars which was created earlier in their evolution.

Peter Leonard, an astronomer from the University of Maryland, argues in *Nature* that the burst on February 17 might, instead, have been caused by an asteroid colliding with a neutron star. The arriving asteroid would twist the magnetic field lines of the neutron star so much that when they come back together again the energy would accelerate electrons and ions to high energies, creating the burst of gamma rays.



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

But there is still no clear lead on whether the bursts are distant, or very distant. If they are really far away, their energy must be being focused in some way, perhaps by a gravitational lens, to create the intensities we observe. That may seem a trifle implausible, but in a subject so chock-full of implausibilities as this, who would balk at another?

Mating call



THE LATEST techniques of genetic technology have swung into action to save the world's most endangered bird. Just a single example of Spix's macaw, *Cyanopsitta spixii*, is known in the wild. It leads a solitary existence in the arid area of east-central Brazil, mateless and unable to keep the species going.

There are 26 Spix's macaws in captivity, and the plan is to release one as a mate. But there is a problem: nobody knows what sex the wild bird is. Given the limited number of captive birds, it would be nice to be sure that the one released was the other sex.

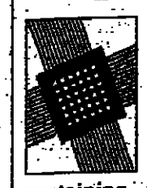
Sexing birds which do not differ in colour or appearance is difficult, unless you can catch one. About two thirds of the world's birds cannot be sexed visually; the most reliable method, in these cases, is to examine the chromosomes taken from the base of a growing feather. The female has one W and one Z chromosome, the male two Z chromosomes. But catching the sole wild bird and removing a feather has been ruled out because it might be too much of a shock.

The only alternative is to use old feathers shed by the wild bird. But they contain only very small amounts of genetic material. To provide enough, Richard Griffiths and Bela Tiwari, from the Unit of Ecology and Behaviour at Oxford, have turned to PCR (polymerase chain reaction), the technique used to multiply the tiny fragments of DNA found in old bones and fossils.

First, they needed to establish a sexual marker in the genes which is common to all birds. Using DNA from chickens, they found such a marker, on the W chromosome of female birds. Now they are using PCR to try to generate enough DNA from feathers of the wild bird picked up from the jungle floor.

Most experts are betting the wild bird is a male, in which case a female will be released. Let's hope they get on.

Chipped



THE NOTION that you don't kick a man when he's down is evidently alien to IBM, which has announced that it is to stop selling personal computers containing the much-hyped Pentium chip, made by Intel.

Intel was embarrassed a couple of weeks ago by the disclosure that its superchip can make mistakes when asked to carry out long divisions. By most standards the mistakes are trivial, occurring only in the fifth or sixth decimal place, but for some users they are a major inconvenience.

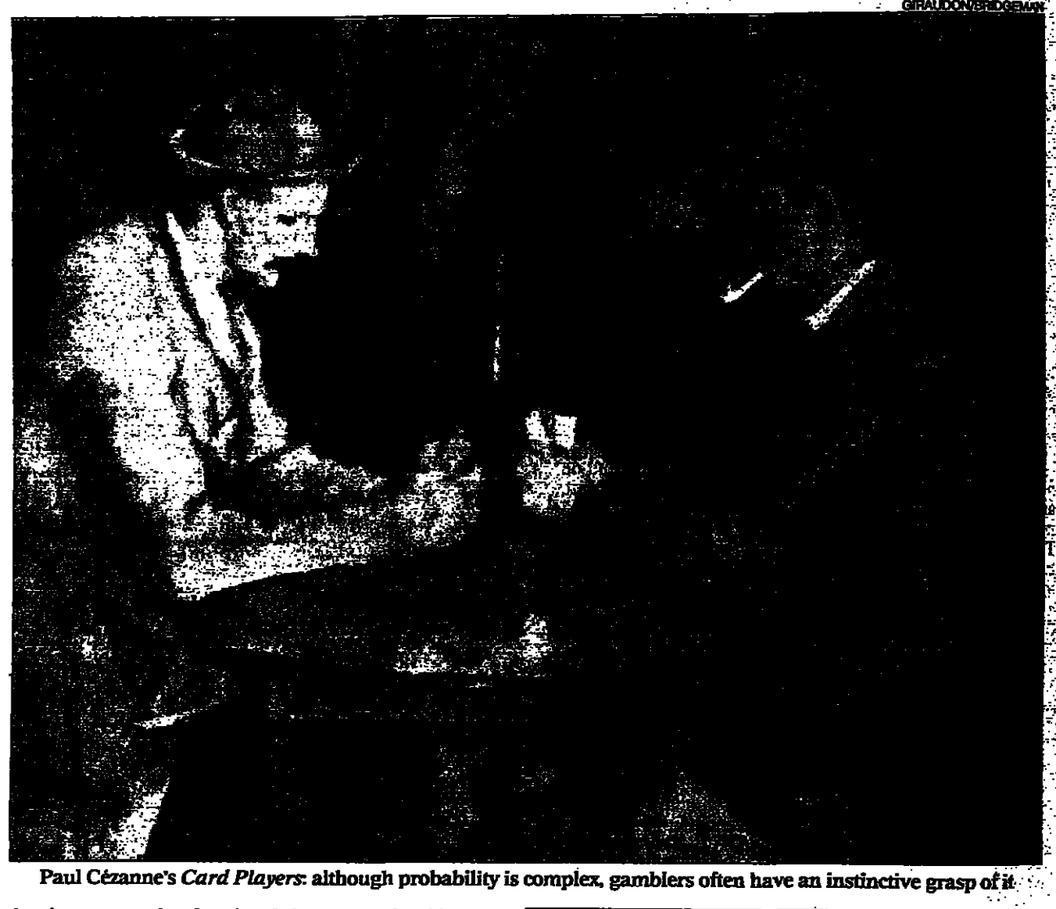
The world's biggest computer company stoppped selling PCs with the Pentium in them a week ago. "I'm not sure many people's buying patterns will change," admitted Richard Thoman, chief of IBM's PC division. "Some people who are doing very heavy computational kinds of tasks will think differently."

There is strategy behind IBM's move. They never sold many PCs with Pentiums in them anyway, and they have a similar chip of their own which could benefit from Intel's troubles. They are also developing a chip called PowerPC which they hope will rival Pentium.

By opting out of the Intel chip now, analysts believe, they are hoping to discourage people from purchasing any Pentium-powered PCs until the new IBM chip hits the market. IBM says not. Intel says nothing at all.

Odds you just can't grasp

Is it true that most people have no understanding of the laws of chance? **Jon Turney** investigates



GIRAUDON/BRIDGEMAN

Paul Cézanne's *Card Players*: although probability is complex, gamblers often have an instinctive grasp of it

If one in every four babies born is Chinese, is it safer to stop after having three? It is easy to spot the fallacy, harder to explain it to someone else who does not get the joke. And in a world where probabilities matter more and more, how much harder is it to put across arguments based on a more sophisticated understanding of the laws of chance?

One area of science which is beginning to raise this question more urgently is the new genetics. The advice people get after a genetic screening test is most often couched in terms of probabilities. Even for the simplest patterns of inheritance, which follow the rules Mendel deduced by studying sweet peas in a monastery garden, predictions about the next generation are based on combinations and ratios. And many conditions now being studied are under much more complex genetic influences.

The technique of DNA "fingerprinting", discovered ten years ago by Alec Jeffreys (now Sir Alec) at Leicester University, relies on interpreting matching patterns of genetic material. If the likelihood of a match occurring by chance is low enough, then identical fingerprints are taken to mean that the samples come from the same source. The power of the technique, which can now be used on minute fragments of tissue, has led to a host of uses, from constructing the prosecution case in the O.J. Simpson trial to pursuit of errant fathers by the Child Support Agency.

> One common mistake comes as news even to judges

Typically, juries are told that the chances of a match between a scene-of-crime sample and one taken from the accused are one in a million, or even one in a billion. But the figures come at the end of a technical argument based on genetic variation within populations and the number of DNA sites examined. In America, in particular, objections to forensic DNA tests have been hotly debated. Some are technical — exactly how are samples handled and processed? What assumptions about the population are made? But one, recently argued strongly by the Harvard geneticist Professor Richard Lewontin, is more fundamental. Juries, he says, simply cannot follow the logic of probabilities.

In a letter to the science journal *Nature* earlier this month, Lewontin says psychologists have shown that "people not trained in quantitative methods cannot understand statistical independence and the logic of probability statements ... Nor can a one-time instruction by a judge be sufficient to correct these misunderstandings. Because juries are no more capable of interpreting probability statements than they are of interpreting any other piece of highly technical information, there are insuperable barriers to their use in the courts."

Researchers in the field agree with the first part of Lewontin's claim. True, the largest survey of public understanding of science in the UK, in 1988, gave rather a good result for a simple probability question based on genetics. Three-quarters of the people asked got the answer right. But as soon as things get more complicated, combining the probabilities of two or more events for example, most of us quickly get into trouble. There is plenty of experimental evidence that our intuitive judgments here are out of line with the strict calculation of odds.

The Sussex University psychologist Stuart Sutherland reviews much of this work in his recent book *Irrationality*, covering examples from medical diagnosis to use of lie detectors. As he puts it: "Since people make consistent mistakes, they have not developed a good intuition for approximately where the correct answer lies." Our best guesses are even less reliable when very large numbers are involved — something which both DNA profiling and the National Lottery have in common.

But if our first thoughts are usually off target, there is less agreement whether lay jurors can follow the arguments if they are explained carefully. Bruce Weir, Professor of Statistics at North Carolina State University, thinks that Lewontin is being unduly pessimistic. "I have had to present and explain such frequencies to juries, and believe that it is possible to do so," he says. "Even the simplest statement such as 'the defendant has the same DNA profile as that left at the crime scene by the perpetrator, and this type is estimated to occur in one in a million people' conveys the correct impression that the evidence of a match is powerful evidence."

This, though, does not deal with some subtleties, especially the so-called "prosecutor's fallacy". Most people assume that the probability of getting a DNA match from an innocent person (the figure normally given) is the same as the probability that the person is innocent if their DNA matches a sample from the scene of the crime. Not true. If the chances of a match are one in a million, there could still be 50 people in a country with a population of 50 million who are just as likely to be guilty. So, on this evidence alone, the person who matches has only a one in 50 chance of being the criminal, in spite of the million to one match. This is a well-known mistake, but still comes as news to most people, including judges, and has proved a bugbear in DNA cases.

But how hard do people find this to understand? Again, people who teach probability for a living are inclined to be reassuring. Nicholas Maxwell, of the University of Washington, points out that "there *is* something screwy about how people work with probabilistic information, but that doesn't mean that there is not some way to present it so it is useful. After all, we do succeed in teaching it to our students."

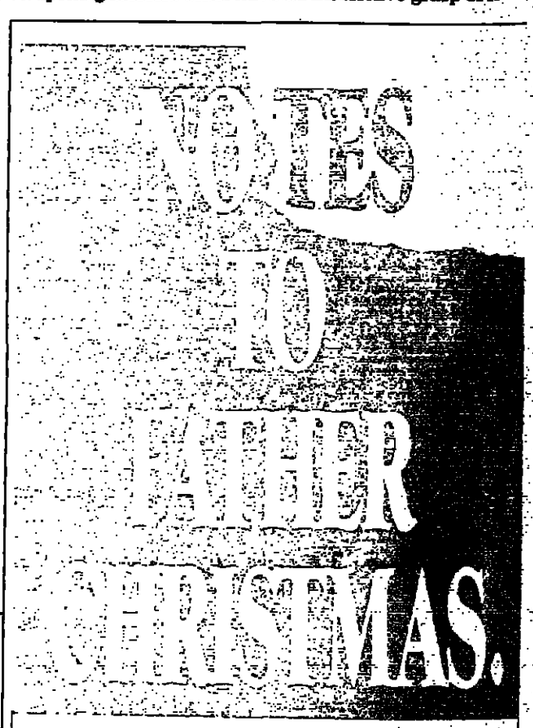
He accepts, though, that the starting level can be extremely low. In introductory statistics classes he habitually asks what weather forecasters mean when they say that there is a 30 per cent chance of rain. "The most common reply is that the weather people mean that they have no idea about whether or not it will rain."

David Balding, lecturer in statistics at Queen Mary and Westfield College, London, also finds that the ideas can be explained, especially when people have the responsibility of sitting on a jury. "Once you point out their mistakes, people do grasp the logic," Balding believes. "I've been in court a few times now, and you do get indications — appropriate nods of the head."

For less attentive students, it helps to use real problems, too. The standard repertoire of examples — tossing imaginary coins, rolling dice, selecting playing cards or drawing different coloured balls out of a bag — can be learnt without any sense of how to apply them to real situations. "All of my courses use examples like HIV testing or DNA profiling," says Balding.

So while there is undoubtedly a host of current issues which most people have little hope of grasping without special coaching, the outlook is not as bleak as Lewontin suggests. Some research shows that regular gamblers can become extremely skilled at manipulating probabilities, even if their formal understanding appears poor. So maybe the National Lottery will turn out to be educational in its own right.

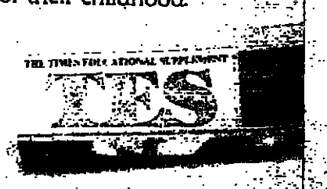
● Jon Turney is Wellcome Fellow in Science Communication at University College London.



Gillian Shephard thinks of angels, David Blunkett remembers the goose and Jackie Collins sighs for her dolls' house.

This week in The Times Educational Supplement twelve public figures recall the Christmas Eves of their childhood.

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A prodnose lurking in the Wendy house

The last thing nursery schools need is an Ofnurse from Whitehall

Mrs Gillian Shephard is a sensible woman, I have talked with her, our eyes have met. She is nowhere near as beastly nor as barmy as her last few predecessors. You would let her babysit, without a qualm.

So I pray that there is no truth in the dreadful suggestion that she is considering a national curriculum for the under-fives. Civil servants are certainly working to cobble together the present jumble of playgroups, nurseries and other pre-school sessions into some sort of recognised network, to meet the pledge of a place for all (note: all whose parents want it) at four years old. But a curriculum? Attainment targets? If there is one area which can do without governmental prodnosing, this is it.

They would bungle it: they always do. Think how long and bitter has been the road towards an acceptable national curriculum in schools.



LIBBY PURVES

Now imagine all that chaos, that uncertainty, that setting-up and scaling-down of tests, that frenzied ticking-off of targets, applied to really small children. And all for nothing: in practice, everyone in the field is already in broad agreement. Children need to learn colours, shapes, as many letters and numbers as possible; how to print BEN or MARY with at least some of the letters facing the right way; how to get covered in paint and Plasticine, ask for the lav, take turns in the playhouse and sit quietly for the story.

The prospect of Ofnurse inspectors popping up to test them on these "skills" is too horrible. Take half a dozen educational advisers and you can ruin any game: we once interviewed a prospective nanny whose workbook had 15 whole pages on how to play peekaboo with a baby.

There are, of course, bad nurseries: but usually, they are bad because the staff are too few or else incompetent. That needs regulation, not a curriculum. Even so, the child may hate it, and need to be withdrawn to mature for a bit. And, quite likely, to learn a few colours, shapes, numbers, and so on at some amateur adult's knee. If so, I dare any government inspector to barge in and demand to check that he has reached Key Stage Zero.

Nursery education developed haphazardly. In the 1830s the reformer Samuel Wilderspin started an infant-school to "redeem the children of the working poor from ignorance and vice". In her study of childcare, *Dream Babies*, Christina Hardyment tells what happened. Eighty small children were deposited by their mothers in the schoolroom. There was a moment's silence, then as the last mother left all 80 children hurled themselves at the door, wailing. Mr Wilderspin could not make himself heard. After a moment or two, he decided that the answer lay in surprise, and put on one of his wife's largest bonnets back to front. In this he "suddenly appeared behind the desolate mob with a gay shout".

It worked. The middle classes, envious, formed their own schools. There were always dissidents: in 1849, the American Harriet Martineau observed that in a group "quietness can only be obtained by drilling, while play occasions an uproar ... a sensible mother takes care that the little creature is protected from hurry, and loud noises and fear, and fatigue of its faculties". She knew, as many mothers do, that some small children are just not up to group education.

Meanwhile, experts have always been annoyed by the idea of tots leading unstructured, curriculum-free lives. Mrs Sydney Frankenburg in *Common Sense in the Nursery* (1922) insisted that mothers are not enough without professional "skilled supervision" and "up-to-date methods". By the time the Second World War needed women at the factory bench, it was easy to persuade every mother that she would harm her child if she did not place it in a state nursery. At the end of the war, the nurseries abruptly shut their doors because the men needed their jobs back, and mother's knee was in fashion again.

Now, the pendulum swing is back to nurseries, even to a set curriculum. But we would do well to listen to the dissident, independent-minded tradition, too. Hear Lizzie Allen Harker, writing in 1903 about "unhappy children ... whose plays are arranged for them always with a view to their 'development'; who may not even make mud-pies in seclusion but must perforce and in gangs shape something out of grey india-rubber and sit at a table to do it. What can they know, poor things, of the joys and terrors to be found in a dwarf-infested shrubbery, just at sunset, on a chill October day?"

In 1903, at least, there were no education ministers lurking in the shrubbery. Now there are. We must be vigilant.

Joanna Pitman talks to a woman who has brought Weimar back on song



DENZIL MCNEILANCE

Sultry chanteuse Ute Lemper: the voice is Dietrich, so thick you could carpet your living room with it

Eyebrows and insolence

There are two really awful things that can happen to a professional singer. One is never to make it onto the stage, never to be heard on disc, never to win recognition. The other is to make it onto the stage and to win buckets of recognition, but for sounding, looking and behaving like other, more famous singers.

Ute Lemper is the latter sort of singer, which is undoubtedly preferable to the former in terms of self-esteem, bank account and general prospects for the future. But when you hear that dark sultry voice singing songs of 1930s Berlin and you watch her drape her long limbs with effortless seduction over a grand piano and blow smoke rings from that wide insolent mouth, the associations begin to flow with the predictability of Christmas cards — to her growing exasperation.

"It's so stupid. When I first started singing Weimar songs and appearing in productions of *Cabaret* seven or eight years ago, everyone was comparing me to Marlene Dietrich. She was a living myth by this time and I just felt ashamed, really." So ashamed was she that Lemper wrote a letter to Dietrich apologising for the fuss, and Dietrich rang her back.

"I was completely overwhelmed when she rang. She sounded so Berlin-ish, she had such a heavy accent and we talked for more than two hours. She was very strong, very bitchy and insulting of things and people," says Lemper, still impressed with the encounter now, two years after Dietrich's death and eight years since the famous telephone call. "She had so much guts. She dared to be weird, to be masculine and bold at that time. She was very clever with her style of performance."

Lemper herself knows a thing or two about style and performance. When she puts on her warpaint and slips into one of her fluid black creations, all sparsity and silky suggestion, and takes up the microphone, the references are unmistakable. The look is Greta Garbo, and the voice is Dietrich: gutteral Berlin, declamatory and throaty; so thick that you could, as one admirer put it, carpet your living room with it. An image of unimaginably sophisticated sinfulness rises from her like smoke from a Balkan Sobranie cigarette.

"My singing is very moody. It can be exalted and also introverted, but being on stage there is a feeling of mortality shared with the audience. I don't try to relive legends. This is an art form which is kind of dead today, but it's still fun to sing. It's political, bright and still anarchic. It is uncomplicated musically, it doesn't fit into popular or classical genre but it's where I feel most comfortable."

She is disillusioned with modern Germany. "All the euphoria has disappeared. I don't like Berlin anymore, it's such a scarred city, but the spirit still remains. The creativity and anarchy are still there."

Earlier this year Lemper moved to Paris, one of the cities celebrated in her latest album, *City of Strangers*, a collection of songs by Stephen Sondheim, Jacques Prevert and Hanns Eisler. "The main theme is Paris in the 1950s and 1960s and the songs recall people like Camus, Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir — artists and musicians who commented on what was wrong with the world. My comment is on cities and their lack of humanity, their loneliness."

Even when she is not wearing her wicked Dietrich image, Lemper has an air of decadence about her — at the very least a performer's perpetual awareness of her audience. Sitting in a hotel suite in Mayfair, she is dressed simply in enormous black trousers that hang loose from a pair of braces slung over her bony shoulders. The outfit looks almost clown-like on her chopstick thin frame but on top, the cropped hair, the fine bones and the fantastically arched eyebrows are absolutely serious image-making.

The beautiful brow furrows when she is making one of her meditative, artistic or political points. There is not much levity inside this frail body and certainly no room for self-doubt, but the spoken English itself is a marvellous cocktail made from her native German tones, overlaid with Gallic sounds from her new home and a shot of New York, added since her marriage earlier this year to an American musical writer and performer.

Her grasp of the English idiom is endearingly shaky, and she peppers her speech with fetching little gems like, "to use the musicality of my body is adoring" and "I had very big fun", the latter referring to her appearance as a pregnant model in Robert Altman's new film, *Prêt-à-Porter*.

"I was eight months pregnant during filming and had to walk around in high heels and tight clothes, but because I was pregnant I became an interesting object. Sophia Loren [who also appears in the film] gave me lots of baby tips ... I loved meeting all these famous people," she says, wide-eyed and sounding far more impressionable than a sultry and sophisticated German chanteuse ought. But as soon as she leaps cat-like onto the grand piano to have her photograph taken, the image falls back into place — all eyebrows and chilling insolence, a face full of sinful secrets.

His Holiness finds the very man to clean out his Irish stable

Walter Ellis hails Monsignor Sean Brady, Ireland's newly appointed Primate, as the man to tackle an institution in crisis

LAST WEEK's appointment of Monsignor Sean Brady as Ireland's next Catholic primate was not so much a shock as a surprise. For that fact alone, Cardinal Cahal Daly, the current head of the Church, and his four million followers will be grateful.

The cardinal, a gentle, courtly figure whose consistent opposition to violence and insistence on a fair deal for Unionists has made him a hate figure among militant republicans, presides over an institution in crisis.

At least ten priests, north and south of the border, have been exposed since last month as homosexual child-abusers and the pain that Cardinal Daly, now 77 and in poor health, has felt in recognising their behaviour has been evident to all.

Mgr Brady, by contrast, has spent most of the past ten years in Rome, where he was Rector of the Irish College, and will have been cast by the Pope as the perfect man to take the Irish Church by the scruff of the neck and drag it back to sanctity.

An Ulsterman, like most Irish Primates, 55-year-old Mgr Brady is at present the parish priest of Ballyhaise, Co Cavan, a few miles south of the Fermanagh border. He will not take up his duties until Cardinal Daly's formal retirement — expected next year — and in the meantime will enjoy the ancient title, Coadjutor Archbishop of Armagh, not used since the Middle Ages.

But it can safely be assumed that he will be preparing to wield a big stick where he considers it necessary and to embark on an unheard-of decade of evangelism aimed at reversing Ireland's growing secularisation. Simultaneously, he will be familiarising himself with the Ulster peace process and meeting its main figures. He will know that Catholics and Protestants in the North are now pledged to work together as never before and that his role could be vital in underpinning confidence.

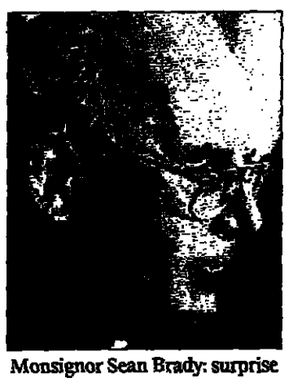
Closer to home, however, in the Church itself, there is dirty work to be done. Claims that individuals within the clergy have created a series of Augean stables are difficult to refute.

When Eamonn Casey, the Bishop of Galway, was exposed in 1992 as the father of an illegitimate child, the Church went into shock. Europe's most conservative hierarchy could scarcely believe what had happened. But at least the bishop was heterosexual, and the woman in the affair was a willing partner.

The current crisis goes deeper. No sooner had Albert Reynolds's coalition Government fallen over revelations that a former Attorney-General had deliberately stalled the extradition to Belfast of a known paedophile priest than it was revealed that child abuse by the clergy was near commonplace in some parishes.

Close to a dozen of Mgr Brady's colleagues are under investigation by police north and south of the border. Others have escaped only because those they abused are too embarrassed or terrified to make an official complaint.

One cleric, accused of systematic abuse of children in Londonderry, has retreated to his monastery to await the completion of a police dossier on his case. Another, in the southeast, could face "dozens" of charges.



Monsignor Sean Brady: surprise

A former altar boy forced by a priest in Connaught to engage in homosexual practices has been awarded unprecedented compensation of £75,000 by the Church, while the priest who, to protect his victim has not been named, serves a ten-year prison sentence.

It is as though the Church — Ireland's "hearth of holy patriotism" — had been taken over by perverts. Bishops and clergy are reeling.

The cardinal, emphasising that most priests remained models of propriety, is clearly sincere. Nobody who heard him make what was in effect his Church's public confession could doubt the extent of his anguish. Yet the fact remains that the Irish people are deeply angry. They sense that they may have been hoodwinked all these years and that the clergy, far from being paragons of virtue, are in all too many instances indulgent sinners, in no position to lay down the law on faith and morals.

Father Malachy Murphy, the embattled parish priest of St Paul's Church in the Falls Road, Belfast, knows as well as anyone what is going on, and his two hard-working young curates now risk open derision when they venture onto the streets.

Part of the problem, according to Father Murphy, is the sea change in Irish society that has occurred in the past 20 years. Ireland is much more open to outside influence and is rapidly developing into a secular society. But the Church, instead of giving a lead in troubled times, has tended to go along with the trend.

"When I was in training, we had to be up at 6 and ready for Mass at 6.30. We weren't allowed outside the college gates at night, and we accepted this. Now, young priests believe they must be given the freedom to make up their own minds and live their own lives."

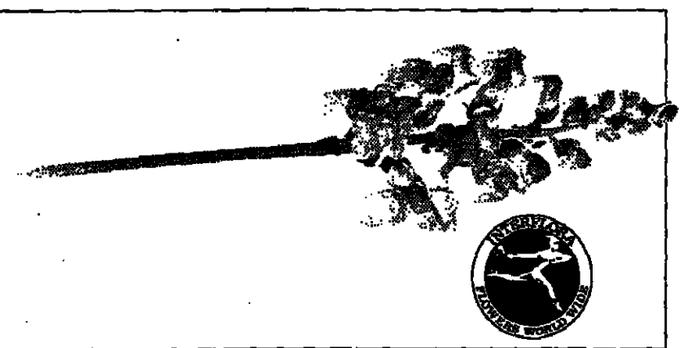
ONE OBVIOUS difficulty, Father Murphy says, is the breakdown in social discipline, and with it respect for authority. "I can remember Father McAtamney in Short Strand [a parish in East Belfast] walking the streets with his blackthorn stick, keeping the children in check. If he gave a youngster a whack, the mother would say, 'Well, if the priest hit you, you must have done *something*'. If I went around like that today, they'd have me up in court."

The picture is not all one of gloom. Faith somehow survives beyond mere reverence. Yet everywhere, decline is apparent. Father Murphy — an embodiment of the best the Church can offer — says that once all the priest had to do was to open the doors and the people would come in. "Now," he adds, "we have to go out and take the faith to the people."

Father Enda MacDonagh, Professor of Moral Philosophy at Maynooth College, outside Dublin, believes that the crisis in the Church has long been evident to those who cared to read the signs. "In the past, priests were not isolated figures," he explains. "They were part of a system of local authority. There was the schoolteacher, the doctor, the solicitor and the police sergeant, and the priest. But today, priests and teachers in particular have dropped ominously as authority figures."

A cool and detached scholar, Father MacDonagh seeks to rationalise the process — even to draw comfort from it. "Peter and the Apostles weren't all saints — at least while they were alive," he explains. "They recognised that being a Christian is a messy business. Salvation is about saving humanity from its worst instincts. It is accepting humanity in its wounded, broken condition."

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Matthew Parris



The railway is an obsolete, albeit agreeable, form of transport. But should the poor subsidise it?

Did you know that it takes 91 bus conductors to pay for the Arts Council subsidy for the Hampstead Theatre? This sum (about £200,000 a year) is roughly what the tax and National Insurance deducted from their nightly wages amounts to. Did you know that we need 546 hod carriers working flat out all year in the building trade to provide the tax necessary for the State's annual subsidy to contemporary dance? That amounts to £20 million. Had you realised that for every business executive who travels first class (usually on expenses) by British Rail, a labourer who is too poor to commute and whose leisure travel is by coach because the train is too expensive for him, must contribute through his taxes to subsidise the rail network? Have you worked out how many coachloads of the comparatively poor are needed to pay, through the taxes on National Express's profits and fuel purchases, for the railway carriage they cannot afford to board?

Has it struck you that the Royal Opera House and the English National Opera are maintained on the backs of the taxes imposed every year on about 1,000 cleaning ladies?

All these considerations and more have filled my mind over the weekend. It had struck me as an interesting new way to look at state spending and, by Friday, Mark Mason, my ingenious researcher, (the one now banned from busking) had provided me with the figures.

My thought, which is only partly frivolous, is this: there are two common ways of looking at public spending.

Especially attractive to Marxists is to assess public expenditure in terms of the overall contribution it makes to the equalising of wealth: how much does state spending do to transfer resources from the rich to the poor? To such an analysis, for instance, welfare benefits to the needy are interesting mostly as a general shift of wealth towards the poor, although we may argue about how best to do this.

The other method is to assess the particular subsidy on its own merits: how valuable or desirable is the things (or person) subsidised? Does he, she, or it deserve to attract public funds? Could they manage without?

Both these approches are useful, although the second is more ideologically fashionable. Quite rightly, there is an impatience with the more socialist approach that was common when I was younger: the view that it mattered less *how* the subsidy was given — as a bus token, a fuel rebate, a free woodwork course or a new welfare entitlement, for instance — so long as a rich person paid for it and a poor person benefited. It was all part of the overall Robin Hood role for the enlightened State.

We are now suspicious of such ways at looking at things. Yet I wonder whether the pendulum has not swung too far? Given that almost all state spending takes money away from one person or group and enriches (however indirectly) another, it does seem interesting to ask who these groups and individuals are.

Let me give an example. Is the National Health Service not, at root, just a massive transfer of wealth from the young to the old? The figures you need to demonstrate this are hard to identify, but if you treat the NHS as an amalgam of the hospital and community health services authority, and the family health services authority, you find that a little less than half of all their combined spending goes on people of pensionable age. About half of all hospital beds are occupied by pensioners.

But rather less than a fifth of our population is in this age group. So about a fifth of Britain is getting about a half of NHS spending of more than £30 billion.

> **Our great opera houses are run on the taxes on cleaning ladies**

I do not complain about this, but instead of calling it a free health service for all, we might equally call it a special and massive transfer of funds to the elderly..

It would be amusing to assemble a social profile of the average woodland-owner, eligible for a whole raft of subsidies.

British Rail's various subsidies total about a billion pounds a year. Soon, with privatisation, the channels of subsidy will become so complex that the total will be impossible to track, but it will still be there because the railway is an obsolete (although most agreeable) form of transport, which will never pay, and could never pass its real cost on in full to its passengers, or it would not have any.

Next year, the average Briton will travel 416 miles by rail. The average business traveller will travel 1,066 miles. I shall travel about 19,000 miles.

So, on my own behalf and that of Britain's business people, thank you, hod carriers, bus conductors, cleaning ladies and Mr and Mrs Average Briton, for finding it in your hearts and purses to help us to pay for travel to and from our country homes.

Given what you are already doing to keep the Hampstead Theatre, the Royal Opera, and Contemporary Dance afloat, we find your generosity little short of heroic.

A thought which occurred as I sat next to a farming friend recently in a seat at the Royal Opera: given the combined costs of the Arts Council and the common agricultural policy, it struck me that the square yard he occupies was perhaps the most heavily subsidised territory in discovered space.

When foolishness drives the State to have a lottery, the biggest winners become public benefactors

We shall all benefit from these millions

I have no intention of publishing the name of the winner of the £17.8 million jackpot. There are three reasons for this. As *The Times* has not published the name, I imagine the Editor does not wish his columnists to do so. The rich are wise to avoid publicity; name recognition is as bad for them as it is good for the careers of politicians, journalists and pop stars, the raucous trio of modern publicity. The third and strongest reason is that I did not buy the *News of the World* yesterday, and thus have no idea of the winner's name.

My noble and semi-reverent friend, Lord St John of Fawsley, has expressed his concern at the size of the jackpot. He thinks it was too large. "Eighteen million pounds is an almost obscene amount of money to give someone." I see the case he is making. It will be difficult for the unfortunate family to adjust their lives to such great wealth. It might have been better if the lottery had been limited so that the largest sums, perhaps those of more than £10 million, would be reserved for people who had received a proper training to prepare them for such a fortune.

An obvious group of qualified recipients would be the members of the House of Lords. Hereditary peers can be regarded as having received lifelong training for a fortune which, in only too many cases, will never arrive. Yet some of them are already very rich, and have enormous houses to maintain. Seventeen point eight million pounds would come in handy for Houghton, Chatsworth or even that Elizabethan vulgarian dream, Longleat. It might have saved from the Christie's sale a few of Philip Sassoon's lesser knicknacks or Robert Walpole's saloon chairs. Yet the life peers deserve a look-in as well. Lord St John could endow another Cambridge college, perhaps named after himself. Lord Hanson could no doubt find an advantageous investment opportunity even for so trifling a sum. There are Liberal Democrat life peers who could handle it prudently; the Chancellor of Oxford University would deserve every penny

The anonymous winner's name is now known only to the 20 per cent or so of his fellow countrymen who read the *News of the World*; most of them no doubt buy their paper for Lord Wyatt's opinions — he is another peer admirably qualified to receive £17.8 million. The actual winner may think it unfair that he should suddenly become so rich, when there are only too many people who are still poor. Lord St John may have raised doubts in his mind about the morality of the State taking small sums from a large number of poor people and giving a very large sum to make one person rich. There are classical economic arguments that the greatest happiness of the greatest number will best be achieved by taking a pound or two from millions of people and giving £17.8 million to one of them.

The reasoning starts, like that of so many other philosophical questions, with Aristotle, who was born at Stagira in 384 BC and died at Chalcis in 322 BC. He can therefore be considered a modern man, at least when compared with Socrates or Confucius. Aristotle observed that democracies are unstable, because the people will vote enthusiastically to spend money, particularly on themselves, but are reluctant to vote for taxes. Maynard Keynes noted that inflation is a natural consequence of weak government.

The first object of the lottery is to raise money for public purposes in an acceptable way. Perhaps reasonably, people would rather buy lottery tickets, although half of their money will never go into the prize pool, than pay VAT on their fuel bills. When the prizes become very high, more people buy more tickets. A £17.8 million win advertises the lottery more effectively than the 18 wins of just under £1 million which Lord St John would find less "obscene". The winner of the jackpot is therefore helping to raise public revenue for those wise and enlightened purposes to which almost half the lottery fund will be devoted.

William Rees-Mogg

Modern democracy indeed has not one but two gaps; there is this gap between public expenditure and revenue, but there is also in many countries a gap between private savings and future need. A recent American estimate is that the baby-boom generation needs to save three times as much as they are doing to make comfortable provision for retirement, which is now only a decade or so away. Like the Americans, British saving rates are too low. There is a gap of at least £50 billion a year between what is actually being saved in Britain and what we would need to save to maintain a good standard of living for the present working population on retirement. The baby boomers are unlikely to be as lucky as their parents with the housing market; there are a lot of baby boomers, so they had to buy their houses at scarcity prices from their parents' generation; they have had fewer children, so they will be selling their houses, in a buyers' market to a smaller generation than their own.

Maynard Keynes believes, rightly, that the rich save more than the poor; he also believed, wrongly, that this was a bad thing. The British economy has a chronic problem of undersaving. In principle, a lottery seems likely to discourage saving rather than encourage it. The lottery has after all, the fundamentally immoral message that the fault lies not in ourselves, but in our stars, that we are underlings. Do not save for tomorrow, trust to luck. Yet offsetting this message is a practical economic benefit. If £50 million is collected in small sums, only a tiny percentage would otherwise be saved. The money comes from cash already in the pocket or purse, waiting to be spent on immediate consumption on the McNugget, the pint of Guinness or the cinema ticket.

Perhaps only £1 million or so would actually have been saved. Yet if £17.8 million of this money is paid out to one man, he is likely to save most of it. He will no doubt make gifts to his relations, but even these will be endowments, not current expenditure. If one takes the largest lottery prizes against the cash sums from which they are funded, the savings rate probably goes up from about 2 to 90 per cent.

The lottery, therefore, systematically turns saving into a specialised economic function. That will also be true of the income from the prize; a man with capital of £17.8 million will have a gross income of perhaps £750,000 from a mixed portfolio of stocks and shares. He will pay income tax of nearly £300,000 and might save half his income after tax, or more than £200,000, plus the growth of well-invested capital. The winner may well decide to move to a more lenient tax environment. In that case, he will be able to save more than twice as much and his capital will grow faster.

Under-saving and over-taxing are closely related. If a country wants adequate saving — the surest road to greater prosperity — public expenditure should be low and taxes should be raised on consumption, not on savings, on expenditure, not on income. There was no shortage of savings in Victorian England with income tax at 2.5 per cent. There is no shortage of savings in Hong Kong, with income tax rising to 15 per cent. The savings problem is largely a tax problem.

A lottery is thus a rather shabby and inadequate way of trying to mitigate the real economic problems created by over-taxation and under-savings. But if the State is so feeble and foolish that it has to have a lottery, the big lottery winners become public benefactors. They do for the rest of us the saving that the State will not let us do for ourselves.

A Balfour for our times?

The Government's disintegration in 1903-05 has echoes for John Major, says Peter Riddell



"We've got to sort ourselves out, or John is going to go down like Arthur Balfour", a senior minister remarked last week. The Balfour Government's disintegration in 1903-05 has ominous echoes for John Major, especially now that discontent has spread to some leading pro-Europeans in the Cabinet.

Senior ministers are near desperate about the continuing malaise in the parliamentary party. The Tories' rout in the Dudley West by-election is dismissed almost with a shrug as an understandable verdict in view of the party's recent public antics. The Christmas recess should provide a respite, but only a temporary one. Predictions of turning points have been falsified almost as soon as they have been uttered.

John Major's response, as in the *News of the World* yesterday, is to claim that his Government is misunderstood. Look at what is being achieved — improvements in public services, action on crime, the ceasefire in Northern Ireland and strong economic growth. All that is true. But it is not enough. The virtuous nature of the economic recovery, focusing on exports and investment rather than consumption, means that it has so far been voteless. Living standards have been squeezed, while the housing market remains weak. So middle-class insecurity remains.

Even two years more of recovery will not matter unless the Government shows that it is united and has a sense of direction. Mr Major is right that Europe is not among the most important issues for most voters. But the public disarray produced among Tory MPs by the recurrent rows over Europe has fuelled public hostility to the Government.

There is no easy way out. That is why the Balfour parallel is so chilling. In the 1900s, the split was over free trade versus tariffs. Balfour sought to keep his party together by balancing the increasingly strident factions and disguising his own intentions. In September 1903, he offset the resignation of Joseph Chamberlain, the leading advocate of tariff reform, with the forced departure of the three leading Unionist Free Traders, including the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He then committed his Government to fiscal reform, and retaliation against foreign tariffs, while remaining opposed to food taxes or general protection. This tactic misfired when the Duke of Devonshire, the Willie Whitelaw of his day, also resigned, in sympathy with the free traders. Alfred Gollin argues in *Balfour's Burden* that "the party had broken into quarrelling factions because Balfour had failed to provide it with a firm and definite lead".

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

The Balfour Government stumbled along for another two years, faced by defeats in Parliament and growing party fissures. Balfour once led his ministers and MPs out of the Commons in an attempt to ignore a challenge over tariff reform — "to treat with neglect these abstract resolutions", as he elegantly put it. In ways similar to the Maastricht battles of two years ago, both sides competed for influence in the constituencies and in the press. Balfour finally resigned in December 1905, hoping that the Liberals would fail to form a credible government. But they did and won a landslide victory.

Balfour, an intellectual aristocrat, was different from Mr Major in many respects, but the similarities are striking — their subtlety in handling colleagues and determination to preserve their parties by balancing the warring factions. Balfour succeeded in keeping his administration going much longer than many expected, just as Mr Major has defied frequent forecasts of his imminent demise. But the price for Balfour was electoral disaster and the mistrust of both factions. The Tories had ceased to look like a party of government.

Mr Major faces a similar dilemma now. There is little he can do to impose his will. The eight Euro-rebels who lost the whip three weeks ago have been treated like martyrs, while they continue to defy the Government in Commons votes and demand reinstatement on their terms. Not only would the leadership look weak if they restored the whip soon without any assurance, or evidence, of loyalty in the division lobbies, but the terms sought by them and their allies on the Tory Right could cause an even more serious split.

An unequivocal commitment now by Mr Major that Britain would never join a single European currency would probably force the resignation of Kenneth Clarke and at least three other Cabinet ministers.

A referendum would also not be the magic unifying potion its advocates claim. The Euro-sceptics can easily devise an anti-Brussels question, as in Teresa Gorman's private member's Bill. But it is impossible now to produce a referendum question on the 1996 inter-governmental conference (IGC) that means anything because nobody knows what will be on the table then.

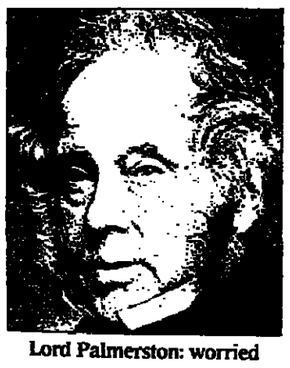
There is a stronger case for one on a single currency but that is still several years away. The latest proposal from Jonathan Aitken that the Tories should promise one in the next election manifesto on any major constitutional change, covering Scottish and Welsh devolution, as well as Europe, is intriguing. But the danger remains that if a referendum is announced soon, rival groups will start organising and ministers will be asked during an election which side they support.

But, as Michael Portillo has argued, a referendum is a second-best option. The Cabinet first has to decide what its policy is. That is why the Cabinet's pro-Europeans are so dissatisfied. They believe that, in the absence of a clear lead, Mr Major is steadily being dragged in the direction of the Euro-sceptics. The pro-Europeans want Mr Major to produce a fully worked-out policy which all ministers will have to support. They believe that the Cabinet Euro-sceptics recognise the need for the Government to stick together, if only for electoral survival. The risk is that any concessions at the 1996 IGC will be presented by the backbench Euro-sceptics as a betrayal of British interests.

What does Mr Major believe? That is what puzzles, and increasingly annoys, the pro-Europeans. The Prime Minister's public statements on Europe have varied. However, just as Balfour was ultimately undone by his deliberate ambiguity and his inability to impose his own approach, so may Mr Major. Most of his difficulties are not his fault. They are the result of the Tories' 15½ years in office. But his only way out now is to lead rather than to manoeuvre.

Ghostly blues

MAYBE it's a coincidence, but as one Conservative Prime Minister agonises over Europe, one of his predecessors who grappled with a similar dilemma has suddenly reappeared on the scene. For Lord Palmerston, that great symbol of British nationalism, has been encountered, looking a little pale, in his study with a few sharp things to say about the state of Britain.



Lord Palmerston: worried

The Naval and Military Club moved into the former PM's house in Piccadilly in 1866, a year after his death. Earlier this year, a porter stumbled across a gentleman gliding about in an ankle-length First World War trenchcoat. He disappeared, apparently into a wall.

A former club steward identified him as Major William Henry Braddell, the victim of a German air raid in 1941, and called Perky by his friends at the "In and Out" club. But, after a report in *The Times* of the sighting, an investigator of the paranormal, who wants to remain anonymous, approached Commander Anthony Holt, the club secretary.

"We took him into the room that used to be Palmerston's study," Holt explains. "He started pacing around the table with his hands behind his back, nodding as though listening to somebody. I could not see anything myself but he was convinced afterwards it was Palmerston. Apparently, he was despairing of the state of the country."

THE TIMES DIARY

Smoking guns

BBC PROTEST has taken its most ingenious turn yet. Stephen Fry, John Bird and Michael Williams have just finished recording *In The Red*, a new play in which they satirise the Beeb's management. Fry and Bird, as the Controllers of Radio 2 and 4, hatch a devilish plot to undermine the controller of BBC1. Producer Paul Schlesinger, nephew of the film director John, says: "They object to the way the BBC is ratings-obsessed. They're right, of course." The actors did their best to get into the rebellious swing of things, I hear. "Smoking is against the rules — so Stephen smoked all the way through."

● *After demolishing Tory chairman Jeremy Hanley — whom he described as "a pantaloon" and "totally useless" among other things yesterday — Lord McAlpine, the former party treasurer, will be decamping to his Venice home, where Baroness Thatcher is joining him, as usual, for Christmas. The two can be expected to mull over the positions of Hanley and John Major, his boss. "She's in cracking form," he tells me.*

Yule protest

TYCOON Peter Cadbury is continuing to wreak his revenge on the Tory party, which he left earlier this year in protest over rising crime, via his Christmas card. It depicts him entering John Major's bedroom through the window while the PM says to his wife: "It's all right, Norma. It's only Peter Cadbury with another complaint!"

Inside, Cadbury has written: "Down with Crime." Then his view may have been jaundiced by his arrival home at Upton Grey near Basingstoke, Hampshire, last Friday, to find he had been burgled for the second time in six months.

Burnt fingers

OPENING a restaurant is a risky business. Viewers of last night's Channel 4 documentary, *Fawlty Premises*, might not have appreciated just how risky.

The programme followed the fortunes of two Bristol chaps from the moment they decided to use their redundancy money to open The Depo café to the high-spirited opening party. There was only one snag with shooting the shindig: the restaurant was not open. It still isn't.

In true *Fawlty Towers*-style, a catalogue of difficulties meant that the October launch date came and went, as did the deadline for filming. Producer Emma Barker says: "We were getting a bit panicky, so they threw the party anyway and we filmed it at the end of last month. We included it in the film because they hope now to open tomorrow. But nobody's putting any money on it."



● *As the flog 'em campaigners have a field day, one legal heavyweight strongly against the birch is the former Master of the Rolls, Lord Denning, who believes he is the only judge still alive to have ordered a flogging. His culprit was a youngster who had knocked an old lady senseless. "I thought he needed a bit of his own treatment.*

Love story

HOT on the trail of her steamy memoirs which sent a frisson through middle England, the unpredictable Sarah Miles is turning to fictional love affairs. The actress has sold her first effort, still unfinished, to Orion, to be published in 1996. The as-yet-untitled book, according to Jane Wood, Miles's editor, is a story of marriage tested beyond endurance. "She writes about what she knows," says Wood, who has been a fan of Miles's writing ever since those memoirs. "She has a wonderful imagination and a great ear for dialogue," Wood says.



Sarah Miles: ear for dialogue

P·H·S



هذا من الاصل

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THE RESTLESS RANKS

Mandela urges patience: his party must listen

In the months before South Africa's momentous elections, leading figures of the African National Congress (ANC) laid a heady tray of promises before a population hungry for change. Yet as euphoria gives way to disenchantment, Nelson Mandela and his colleagues are starting to pay a price for that ill-judged electoral rhetoric. At the ANC's first conference since it won power in April — which ends on Wednesday — the President has had to stand up to the party's cadres to rebut two charges: that his government has reneged on its political contracts, and that it has turned its back on its own supporters.

As Mr Mandela made clear in a speech that was as reassuring as it was elegant, these charges have little foundation. In reaffirming his commitment to "reconstruction" and "reconciliation", the twin pillars on which his government of national unity rests, he urged his followers to be patient, and to resist the false charms of short-term gain. "Ours is not a programme of quick handouts, but one for serious and lasting transformation."

Mr Mandela is right. The ambitious Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP), to which all mainstream South African political parties have now pinned their faith, cannot succeed without fiscal discipline and economic growth. Appropriately, the theme of the ANC conference is "From Resistance to Reconstruction". By his measured address, warmly received by a majority of those present at the Bloemfontein venue, Mr Mandela has demonstrated that the crusade against radical resistance to real reconstruction continues to be fought at the highest level.

Paradoxically, there can have been no better proof of Mr Mandela's continued fidelity to the truths of market economics than the latest unrest in his party's ranks. But with forthright words, South Africa's President appears to have laid to rest fears that he might dilute his economics with a dangerous dash of populism: "Our reference to fiscal discipline, macroeconomic stability and economic growth tends to irritate those justifiably impatient about change: but sheer logic tells us that our programme cannot be carried out in a sustainable way without a rational utilisation of the resources at our disposal."

This will not be music to the ears of the party radicals, but lessons in discipline seldom are. Jobs, housing and education may be in seriously short supply: so, also, is the money to pay for them. The Left might begin by focusing on ways to generate extra revenue. The enduring "rent boycott" in the townships, whose residents continue, as they did in the days of apartheid, to refuse to pay rent and for public services, deprives the Government of millions of rands of revenue which it could use to implement its RDP. There is no longer a valid political basis for this culture of civil disobedience.

There is no doubt that many South Africans lead lives of pervasive poverty; yet attempts by sections of the ANC to characterise the path of Mr Mandela's government as one of "pandering to whites" are as simplistic as they are dangerous. The country is trying to emerge from its old Manichean ways. Whatever its failings, the government of national unity has striven to forge a new *civitas*. While recognising that the injustices of past years cannot simply be treated as myths, Mr Mandela's government has preferred correctly the sobriety of a prospective vision.

SANTA TIGHTENS HIS BELT

Shopkeepers and politicians feel less than merry this Christmas

The news from Britain's high streets seems a little better now than it was a week ago, when one of the country's leading retailers predicted the worst holiday selling season in a generation. Nevertheless, the festive spirit is less evident than usual in the shops. While there are half a million more people with jobs today than there were in the depths of the recession, even those who are lucky enough to enjoy secure employment now on average have less money in their pockets, after taxes and inflation, than they did last Christmas. And those who are better off seem anxious to save, rather than spend.

This mood of caution among consumers was confirmed last week in the official retail sales figures, which showed virtually no growth since mid-summer, when the Government's new taxes began to bite. This flat trend, if it continues, will be bad news for shopkeepers and probably also for Tory strategists, who still put faith in the Chancellor's ability to conjure up a "feel-good factor" just before the general election.

But for the country as a whole, the new austerity is unquestionably a good thing. Until the last few years, Britain had been living far beyond its means for more than a generation, with consumption and imports growing rapidly as a proportion of national income. In the consumer and housing boom of the late 1980s the 100 per cent mortgage became a fashion accessory and the share of consumption in national income rose to the highest level ever recorded. But this was merely the Bacchanalian coda to a consumer revel going on for three decades, at least since Harold Macmillan's years of "you never had it so good".

Since most Britons now probably realise that the spending and borrowing binge was neither sustainable nor particularly pleasant, the Chancellor would probably be right, politically as well as economically, to resist demands for a pre-election "feel-good" boom. As Stephen Dorrell, the National Heritage Secretary, said this weekend, Britain does not need policies that "feel good", but policies that "feel right".

The electorate probably agrees. But on its own this kind of moralising is of little help to the Government. The public no longer has much faith that what "feels right" to the Government is right for the country. That is the enduring legacy of the ERM fiasco — a commitment that seemed unequivocally right to the Government turned out to be disastrously wrong. Economically, it is possible to overdo austerity, especially at a time when consumers and homeowners are spontaneously deciding, for their own personal reasons, to save more and spend less. Britain needs businesses to invest and expand as badly as it needs consumers to tighten their belts, and these two objectives will not necessarily be balanced by giving the Bank of England free rein to keep raising interest rates.

Economic policy must certainly aim to create the conditions that "feel right", as Mr Dorrell has suggested. But a policy which is unpopular or unpleasant is not automatically right, just because the Chancellor or the Prime Minister says so. After the ERM experience, the public and the business community are no longer willing simply to accept the Government's judgment of what is good for Britain. That is perhaps the reason why shoppers, as well as ministers, look less merry than usual this Christmas.

THE WRONG MESSENGER

Britain needs no lectures on racism from Jesse Jackson

When Channel 4 put up Quentin Crisp last Christmas as an alternative "queen", the result was a delightfully camp message to the nation. This year's choice for an alternative Queen's message promises to be more controversial. Jesse Jackson, the former American presidential contender, plans to lecture the British about homelessness, Third World poverty and, above all, racism.



Nobody can afford to be complacent about race relations in Britain. There is still too much discrimination, racial harassment and racially inspired violence. Any murder motivated by racial differences shames all who live in this country. But, compared with its European partners and America, Britain is still more notable for tolerance than bigotry. Multicultural societies will always have their frictions, but no racist or nationalist parties have taken hold here. The National Front and the British National Party fight in very few seats and have had only one short-lived victory in a council by-election. In national politics, they have made no headway and mainstream politicians generally refrain from exploiting racial fears to win support. Compare that political record with France, Italy, Germany or America.

American society is far more divided than Britain's. Only last month, California voted for a proposition that would deprive illegal immigrants of the right to public education and social services. So ghettoised have many big cities become that whole networks of streets are no-go areas for white people.

In Washington itself, few congressmen would venture more than a couple of blocks north-east of Capitol Hill. There is nowhere in London or any other British city that is out of bounds to people because of their race. Britain still has one of the lowest rates of murder and violent crime in the world. The chances of a child or teenager of being murdered are minute, regardless of his or her race. In America, by contrast, schoolchildren in many cities routinely carry knives and die in gunfights. Murder is the single biggest cause of death for black male teenagers. Race relations in America have become so febrile that a black man accused of killing several whites is currently using "black rage" as his defence. Such an argument would be unthinkable in Britain.

It ill behoves Mr Jackson, therefore, to come to this country and complain about race relations. If anything, it seems as if he is determined to stir up black rage here. He urges "the oppressed" to engage in "resistance to their oppression". Such rhetoric is designed to inflame anger, thus worsening relations that are, by most countries' standards, remarkably calm. Racial hatred by blacks of whites is as damaging and demeaning as racism the other way.

It is in part because of the increasing militancy of black leaders in America that race relations there have deteriorated over the past decade or two. This country's record is by no means perfect. But at least black, Asian and white people live relatively peacefully side by side. No one here seriously believes that Aids or crack have been deliberately disseminated by white people in order to destroy black lives. Such myths, spread by extremist black leaders in America, have helped to ferment there a potent brew of black rage and white fear. Mr Jackson should look to his own country's problems before he interferes in ours.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

'Market forces' at work in the NHS

From Professor Harry Keen

Sir, Your report (December 10) of the National Audit Office's findings that fundholding GPs give better services to patients does not tell us to what extent better services for some were achieved at the expense of worse services for others.

We know that all over the country trust hospital managers are giving priority to cash-bearing, fundholder patients.

Some enterprising fundholding practices have succeeded in making large savings. Either they had been allocated too much money or their patients were being deprived of some services. Some of the money "saved" on patient care went into enhancements of practice properties, surely a perverse planning incentive, particularly as most doctors own their premises.

A link can readily be made between enlargement of fundholding GP practices with surplus funding and the closure of beds, wards and hospitals for the lack of it: not a planned redeployment but a product of the play of the Government's "market forces" reforms.

There are also serious questions about the better alternative use of resources locked into the fundholding scheme, the efficacy and the fairness of putting cash up front before clinical priority, the disintegration of the National Health Service into thousands of deal-doing, non-accountable, competing little businesses — with the attendant bureaucracy, accountancy and vast transaction costs.

It is vital to get the greatest health gain for every pound of public money spent on the NHS but this is not the way to do it. It is time to draw this wasteful and ramshackle market experiment to a close and get the NHS back on track.

Yours faithfully,
HARRY KEEN (President),
NHS Support Federation,
Toynbee Hall,
28 Commercial Street, E1.
December 11.

Question of Britain's role in Europe

From Miss Beryl M. Goldsmith

Sir, Sir Edward Heath's advice on a possible referendum on Europe (Politics and Government, December 14) revives vivid memories of the 1975 campaign in which I played, with great enthusiasm, an organisational role in a very professional campaign. But that referendum was about staying in the sort of European Economic Community (or Common Market) into which Sir Edward had skilfully led us three years earlier. This referendum would be quite different.

It would be about European union and a single currency (which Mr Average Citizen wrongly believes simply to mean he would not have to change his sterling into francs, lire or pesetas when he goes on his package holiday).

The British people will be asked to commit themselves to full European integration: a single currency, meaning in practice a single European bank, a single European tax policy and the logical outcome of a single European government.

That is why, with so many of my colleagues from the halcyon days of 1975, I would be one to say unequivocally, No, no, no.

Yours faithfully,
BERYL GOLDSMITH
(Chairman, Conservative Group for Europe, 1981-85),
34 Thomas More House,
Barbican, EC2.
December 14.

From Mr Allen Sykes

Sir, An essential precursor to a referendum on Britain's future association with the European Community needs to be an informed debate. This requires three conditions.

There must be at least one, preferably several, objective cost-benefit studies of the two main options, of increasing federation and giving up EC membership while remaining in the associated free-trade grouping, the European Economic Area. The business community should fund at least one such study, and the Treasury another.

Any referendum conducted after the 1996 inter-governmental conference has produced proposals for ratification should include a competent brief summary of the main proposals. British electors were unreasonably denied this facility on the Maastricht treaty, yet the Irish Government managed a highly praised ten-page summary.

As in the 1975 referendum, the Government should allow ministers and its MPs to campaign and vote with their conscience, as your leading article (December 12) urges. There is no other way of testing public opinion thoroughly and fairly.

Yours faithfully,
ALLEN SYKES,
Mallington, 29 The Mount,
Fetcham, Leatherhead, Surrey.
December 13.

From Mr Michael Welsh

Sir, Bill Cash ("Think-tank refused charity status", December 14) should not count his chickens. The Action Centre for Europe (ACE) is being set up as a company limited by guarantee and we shall launch our first project, an examination of the implications of a European currency union and the choices Britain would face, next month. In due course we shall submit our publications to the Charity Commissioners as they have invited us to do, and it will be for them to decide whether to register us or not.

ACE's articles of association state that its objectives are to provide information for the education of the public on European policy issues. This we shall do in the form of publications which are objective and balanced, leaving our readers to make up their own minds on these vital matters.

Yours truly,
MICHAEL WELSH
(Chief Executive,
Action Centre for Europe),
Watercrook,
181 Town Lane, Whittle-le-Woods,
Chorley, Lancashire.
December 14.

Role for engineers at Bankside

From Professor Sir Edmund Happold, FEng

Sir, The trustees of the Tate Gallery recently announced the results of the first stage of a competition set up to find a registered architect for the new gallery within the redundant Bankside power station (report, November 22). Of those selected to go forward to the final stage, only one, David Chipperfield Architects, is British.

The competition excluded building engineers as partners with the architects because the trustees stated that they did not want a specific design solution. But the development of such a large space to create an art gallery of international standing also requires engineering design of the highest quality.

More than just a servicing role is needed for the engineering part of the design if the art of technology is to be expressed and achieved, a necessary element if the building is to have long-lasting international significance. The Crystal Palace expressed this in the last century, Centre Pompidou is but one 20th-century example.

Will the trustees also hold an *ideas* competition to select the building engineers able to make the most creative contribution, rather than just tendering for a service at the lowest price? It is even conceivable that more than one British engineer would get through to the final stage, thereby also promoting our technologists as part of our national need for export.

It seems to me that the Millennium Fund, which is expected to largely fund this gallery, should not support an ill-conceived closed shop. Or are the pictures and sculptures in the new gallery also to be only those produced by graduates of approved courses in art schools?

Yours faithfully,
TED HAPPOLD
(Chairman,
Construction Industry
Council, 1988-91),
4 Widcombe Terrace, Bath, Avon.
December 17.

Prison policy and pay

From Mr Peter Rutherford

Sir, Your report, "Howard says jails director deserves his bonus" (December 13), highlights the central stupidity of the Prison Service in that Derek Lewis, its Director-General, has met the objectives set for him by the Home Office.

Despite the fact that one of Mr Lewis's stated objectives is to help inmates to "lead law-abiding and useful lives in custody and after release", reoffending rates are not a key performance indicator.

This is equivalent to judging the performing of a soccer boss without reference to the number of team wins.

Ninety-two per cent of 15 and 16-year-olds reoffend upon release. The equivalent of every hour of the day and night of every day of the year, Mr Lewis releases into society an inmate who goes straight back into crime.

There is no shortage of rehabilitation programmes to try. Many pioneered abroad have halved rates of reoffending. Mr Lewis and his Director of Custody, Miss Philippa Drew (who you report today is likely soon to be moved from the service and returned to the Home Office), are not funding trials in this country of rehabilitation programmes which have been successful elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,
PETER RUTHERFORD,
9 Sumatra Road, NW6.
December 17.

From His Honour Judge Robert Smyth

Sir, The total emoluments of the Director-General of the Prison Service are to exceed the salary of the Lord Chief Justice. I venture to question the set of values revealed by this comparison.

I am Sir, yours & etc,
ROBERT SMYTH,
Leys,
Shelsley Beauchamp, Worcester.
December 13.

Police and press

From Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC

Sir, The chairman of the Police Federation seeks (letter, December 15) to justify the increasingly frequent use of federation funds, with the Home Secretary's and Parliament's approval, to suppress or punish alleged defamatory criticism of police officers arising from the way in which they exercise their public powers.

Such criticism is often only alleged, rather than proved, to be defamatory because defendants cannot afford to defend libel actions unless they are rich and powerful. They therefore settle out of court, paying damages and legal costs.

The good reputation of members of the police service is very important. So is the right of the public and the media to complain and to criticise.

There is nothing inherently objectionable about the use of federation funds for libel actions, provided that English defamation law requires that a police officer, like other public officers, must prove malice or reckless disregard of the truth.

But there remains the serious injustice that, while the State authorises the use of federation funds to support libel actions by police officers against their critics, defendants to those actions are ineligible for legal aid.

I believe that the Home Secretary and Parliament should reconsider whether federation funds should be used to chill the citizen's and the media's right to criticise alleged abuses by police officers, except in cases where it is alleged that the defendant acted for an improper purpose or with reckless disregard for the truth.

If that were the rule, there would be a fair balance between the right to free expression and the right to a well-deserved reputation.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY LESTER,
2 Hare Court, Temple, EC4.
December 15.

Cut-price schooling

From Mr Peter R. Baker

Sir, As unpaid chairman of governors of one of Oxfordshire's largest and most successful comprehensive schools, I find myself potentially presiding over the decimation of the education service as we know it.

The Government's recently announced spending assessment for Oxfordshire would require the county to make cuts of £25.7 million in the year from April 1, 1995. This would mean cuts of £11.9 million for the education service and for Wheatley Park School of approximately £200,000, on the basis of £133 per pupil. This translates into ten teachers out of a staff of 80, plus commensurate cuts in all support services. They are achievable only at huge expense in terms of quality and performance.

I am not prepared to act as the Government's executioner in this most vital of services. Governing bodies throughout the land must say "No!" to the Government. It is time that all those involved in the voluntary management of our education and social services made their opinions clear.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BAKER (Bursar),
Hertford College, Oxford.
December 16.

Tulip origins

From Mrs Pamela M. Jordan

Sir, Although Clusius was the first person to become famous for cultivating the tulip in Europe (Simon Jenkins's article, "It all stems from loveliness", December 10) I have always understood that it was Ogier Ghiselin de Busbecq, the Emperor Ferdinand I's Ambassador to the Ottoman court, who can be thanked for introducing this wonderful flower to European gardens.

It was he who saw tulips growing in Turkey and sent the bulbs back to Clusius in Vienna.

Yours faithfully,
PAMELA M. JORDAN,
Brackenber House,
Giggleswick, Settle, North Yorkshire.
December 11.

Science and religion

From Mr C. C. M. Parish

Sir, In my view, Credo today does not take up the key difference between science and religion.

The objective of science is to find some better explanation of the universe. Destruction of current theories is encouraged, provided the evidence is sound.

I am not sure what the objective of a faith is, but it seems to be to provide reassurance to its followers. To attack the fundamental principles of the faith is actively discouraged by the church.

Thus, a successful attack on a principle in science does not affect science itself. A successful attack on a faith destroys the faith itself (as any sun worshipper would tell you, if there were any left).

Science is thus eternal (until everything is known), a faith only lasts whilst it is fashionable.

Yours faithfully,
C. C. M. PARISH,
1 Elmfield,
Great Bookham, Surrey.
December 10.

A blind eye?

From the French Defence and Naval Attaché

Sir, May I thank Mr John Cherry (letter, December 5), through you, for his concern for French sensitivity, but hasten to reassure him that an invitation to a French Admiral to a function on board *HMS Victory* is considered both a privilege and a mark of great friendship.

Sailors throughout the world, and particularly French sailors, have immense respect for the courage and seamanship of Admiral Lord Nelson, which are universally recognised.

I would even add that a reception in such prestigious surroundings is a strong signal of the warm relations enjoyed by our two navies; all honour to the Royal Navy for giving such a signal!

Yours faithfully,
YVES de KERSAUSON
(Rear-Admiral),
Defence and Naval Attaché,
Embassy of France,
58 Knightsbridge, SW1.
December 12.

Bloody field

From Mr J. G. Wishart

Sir, I am surprised by the elementary howler perpetrated in your report, "Historians use radar to find remains of Culloden" (December 14).

The victors of the battle were the regiments of the British Army and the losers were Jacobite rebels, most of whom were Scots but there were Irish and English in their midst. Of the regiments of British infantry who took part, about 25 per cent were Scottish, including two regiments which are still in today's order of battle; the Royal Scots and the King's Own Scottish Borderers.

The bloody reprisals carried out after the battle were mainly the actions of Scottish lowland troops, venting their spleen on their fellow countrymen who spoke a different language, worshipped in the unreformed religion and adhered to a different lifestyle: ethnic cleansing of the 18th century!

Yours faithfully,
J. G. WISHART,
Milton House,
Milton of Balgonie, Glenrothes, Fife.
December 15.

BA franchises

From the Managing Director of CityFlyer Express

Sir, As the first company to enter a franchise agreement with British Airways I must take strong issue with Harvey Elliott's argument ("Bring British Airways down to earth", Travel News, December 8) that BA "has managed to steal away with almost all Britain's domestic airline industry" and that the name and logos of companies participating in the franchise are made inconspicuous in order to encourage passengers to believe they are flying BA.

In fact, our name is in the timetable, on the check-in desk, next to the aircraft entry door, and inside the aircraft; it is also used in the initial boarding announcements and in-flight public address. Even our cabin-crew name badges carry the CityFlyer name.

I am particularly concerned to challenge any suggestion that passengers flying with us or other franchise partners might receive less compensation in the case of an accident. Compensation levels are set by international agreement and British Airways requires that franchisees can provide appropriate levels of compensation. Indeed, CityFlyer's insurances are arranged through the same broker and to the same levels as are those of British Airways itself.

I would like to stress that my company is an enthusiastic participant in the BA franchise scheme, which we believe benefits passengers by enabling them to receive BA standards of service when flying to less popular destinations.

Yours sincerely,
BRAD BURGESS,
Managing Director,
CityFlyer Express Ltd,
Iain Stewart Centre,
Beehive Ring Road,
Gatwick Airport, West Sussex.
December 9.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Season's bleatings

From The Dean of Lichfield

Sir, The only thing I really object to about Christmas circulars (letters, November 28, December 3, 8, 14, 15) is calling them "round robins".

A round robin is a petition or protest, signed by several people in a circle to prevent anyone being singled out as the ringleader. Thus a circular goes from one person (or family) to many; a round robin, from many to one.

If you print this, it will be a circular. If you don't, I might collect other lovers of English usage and together send you a round robin, with my own name cunningly concealed somewhere in the middle.

Yours (for the moment)
straightforwardly,
TOM WRIGHT,
The Deanery,
Lichfield, Staffordshire.
December 15.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

December 17: The Duke of York today attended the recommissioning of MV QUEEN ELIZABETH 2 at Southampton Docks, Southampton, and was received by Mr Maldwin Drummond (Deputy Lieutenant of Hampshire).

Captain Neil Blair RN was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

December 18: The Duke of Kent this evening attended a Concert by the Hereford Choral Society, the Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Ethelbert, Hereford, Herefordshire.

Captain Alexander Tetley was in attendance.

Forces appointments

Royal Navy & Royal Marines

Captain: I A Forbes - Invincible in Cmd 25.4.95; C R Hutchings - MOD Bath 12.12.94

Acting captain: A G Johns - Campbeltown in Cmd 13.6.95

Acting colonel: I McNeill - Staff of 2SL/CNH 9.6.95

Commander: A A S Adair - Brazen in Cmd 11.4.95; A J B Cameron - Westminster in Cmd 14.3.95; J W Farquhar - NATO Italy 7.4.95; I N L Gallett - Dryad 7.2.95; N J G Harland - Lancaster in Cmd 25.4.95; N H L Harris - MOD London 7.4.95; I L Jarvis - MOD London 28.4.95; N D Savage - MOD Bath 2.6.95; C W Waite - Drake 16.5.95

Surgeon Commander: C J Stoot - RNAS Portland 5.4.95.

Local Lieutenant Colonel: K L De Val - CTCRM Lympstone 16.1.95.

The Army

Brigadier: R A Bradbury - To Kuwait Proj Off, 19.12.94; R E Ratazzi - To be Comd HQ Combat Svcs Sp Gp (G), 20.12.94; M D Conroy - To MOD 19.12.94.

Lieutenant Colonel: M D Conway AGC(ALS) - To HQ SDIST, 19.12.94; M A C Hughes RE - To be CO 39 Engr Regt 19.12.94; A P Paine REME - To MOD 19.12.94; P M Prentis AAC - To MOD 19.12.94.

Retirement

Brigadier: J M Lucken Late RE 24.12.94.

Royal Air Force

Group Captain: N E Taylor - To RAF Akrotiri 8.12.94; A P Waldron - To RAF Shawbury 12.12.94.

Wing Commander: P J McGahan - To RAF Leeming 12.12.94; R G T Hunt - To HQ Aircent 12.12.94; S A Gibson - To RAF Uxbridge 12.12.94; A E Deebank - To MOD 12.12.94; P Wood - To MOD 12.12.94; D R E Evans - To HQ AWC 12.12.94.

Air Commodore: S M Nicholl - To MOD 23.12.94; R H Fletcher - To MOD 31.12.94.

Group Captain: A G Hopper - To HQ PTC 13.12.94; B M Cottam - To HQ LC 16.12.94; C J Blencowe - To 16 MU Stafford 16.12.94; B J Poulton - To HQ AF Northwest 23.12.94.

Wing Commander: P G Rowlands - to HQ 18 GP 19.12.94; C M Woodman - MOD DRF&C 19.12.94; P Heaton - To MOD AFD 19.12.94; S E Smith - To RAF Coningsby 19.12.94; P J Betts - HQ STC 19.12.94; G E Stacey - To HQ STC 19.12.94.

MARTIN BEDDALL



Thomas Hurd, second son of the Hon Douglas Hurd, MP, and Catherine Aubrey who were married in Winchester Cathedral on Saturday

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.A. Jenner and Miss E.S. Munro

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs D. Jenner, of Sussex, and Emma, daughter of Sir Alan and Lady Munro, of Chiswick, London.

Mr R.A. Maunder and Ms D.V. Merritt

The engagement is announced between Roy Andrew, youngest son of the late Mr Gilbert Maunder and of Mrs Maunder, of Durban, South Africa, and Dulce Virginia, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Ralph Wickes Merritt, of San Jose, California.

Flying Officer A.G. Netherwood and Miss A.J. Richardson

The engagement is announced between Andrew, only son of Mr G. Netherwood, of Melbourne, Australia, and Mrs C. Netherwood, of Harrold, Bedfordshire, and Angela, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.D. Richardson, of Great Wymondley, Hertfordshire.

Mr G.D. Searby and Miss C.M. Boyle

The engagement is announced between Giles, son of Mr and Mrs Derek Searby, of Pontefract, West Yorkshire, and Clare, daughter of Mr Robin Boyle and the late Mrs Ruth Boyle, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Dr M.J. Trelinski and Miss V.J. Locock

The engagement is announced between Marek, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J.A. Trelinski, of Hillary Road, Rugby, and Victoria, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs L.M. Locock, of Stoatley Rise, Haslemere.

Marriages

Mr T.R.B. Hurd and Miss C.S. Aubrey

The marriage took place on Saturday in Winchester Cathedral of Mr Thomas Hurd, second son of the Hon Douglas Hurd, MP, of Burford, Oxfordshire, and of Mrs Tatiana Hurd, of Fulham, London, to Miss Catherine Aubrey, daughter of Dr and Mrs Daniel Roland Aubrey, of Mattingley, Hampshire.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Maximillian Hurd, Augustus Hurd, Jessica Hurd, Edward Russell, Miss Juliet Aubrey and Miss Kate McDowell. Mr James Berry was best man.

A reception was held at Lainston House, Winchester.

Mr A.C. Lisser and Miss C.M. Wordsworth

The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Thomas of Canterbury, Mayfield, East Sussex, of Mr Aidan Lisser, only son of Mr and the Hon Mrs Raymond Lisser, of Stanton, Gloucestershire, to Miss Caroline Wordsworth, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Allain Wordsworth, of Mayfield. Father Stephen Tynan officiated and the Rev Jonathan Lawson gave an address.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Kathryn Beeson, Florence Grossman, Constance Grossman, Rebecca Priddle and Elizabeth Priddle. Mr Magnus Spence was best man.

A reception was held at the Ashdown Park Hotel, Wych Cross, and the honeymoon will be spent in Chile before returning to their home in Shanghai.

Mr S.P.C. Berry and Miss M. Demetriou

The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Bartholmew-the-Great, West Smithfield, of Mr Silas Berry, younger son of Professor Sir Colin and Lady Berry, of Dulwich, to Miss Maria Demetriou, elder daughter of Mrs Demetria Demetriou, of Kolios tou Yialoh, Famagusta, Cyprus. The Rev A.C. Winter officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her mother, was attended by Miss Annabel Giles and Miss Hayley Harris. Mr William Osmond was best man.

A reception was held at Painters' Hall and the honeymoon will be spent in Hong Kong.

Mr S.E. de Somogyi and Miss E.A. Padua

The marriage took place on Saturday, December 10, 1994, at Grand Baie, Mauritius, of Mr Stephen de Somogyi, elder son of Mrs Anne de Somogyi and the late Mr Jan de Somogyi, of Beckenham, Kent, to Miss Elizabeth Padua, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Alfonso P. Padua, of London, SW15.

Appointments

Mr Philip Berg to be Master of the Music, The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, on the retirement on December 31 of Dr William Cole who will continue his association as Master of the Music Emeritus.

Mr David Burns to be Ambassador to Finland in succession to Mr Neil Smith who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service.

Birthdays today

Sir Antony Buck, QC, former MP, 66; Mr Ross Buckland, chief executive, Unigate, 52; Mr Upamanyu Chatterjee, novelist, 35; Mr Timothy Eggar, MP, 43; Dame Catherine Hall, former general secretary, Royal College of Nursing, 72; Brigadier L.J. Harris, cartographer, 84; Sir Brian Hill, president, Higgs and Hill, 62; Mr Leonard Hirsch, violinist, 92; Mr Steven Isserlis, cellist, 36; Mr Syd Little, comedian, 52; Mr Tim Parks, novelist, 40; the Marquess of Queensberry, 65; Dr David Rowe-Beddoe, chairman, Welsh Development Agency, 57; Sir David Rowe-Ham, former Lord Mayor of London, 59; Professor Thomas Christopher Smout, Historiographer Royal in Scotland, 61; Lord Weir, 63.

Summer Time

In 1995, British Summer Time will run from March 26 to October 22.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: William Edward Parry, Arctic explorer, Bath, 1790; Sir Ralph Richardson, actor, Cheltenham, 1902; Leonid Brezhnev, President of the Soviet Union 1977-82, Dneprodzerzhinsk, Ukraine, 1906; Edith Piaf, singer, Paris, 1915; Eamonn Andrews, broadcaster, Dublin, 1922.

DEATHS: Matteo Boiardo, poet, Reggio nell'Emilia, 1494; Vitus Bering, navigator, Bering Island, 1741; David Hartley the younger, statesman and inventor, Bath, 1813; Benjamin Smith Barton, naturalist, Philadelphia, 1815; Emily Brontë, poet and novelist, Haworth, Yorkshire, 1848; Joseph Mallord William Turner, painter, London, 1851; Sir Paul Vinogradoff, historian, Paris, 1925; Louis Untermeyer, writer, 1977.

Henry II became King of England, 1154.

Britain and China signed an agreement to return in 1997 Hong Kong to China, 1984.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron of the Order of St Etheldreda, will visit Ely Cathedral, Cambridgeshire, at 5.00.

The Prince of Wales will visit Minera Lead Mines, Wrexham, Clwyd, at 10.15; and as Chairman of The Prince of Wales' Committee, will present the committee's awards at the Memorial Hall at 11.40.

Church news

Bishop of Tewkesbury to retire

The Right Rev Jeremy Walsh, Suffragan Bishop of Tewkesbury, diocese of Gloucester, is to retire in October, 1995. He is 65.

Lincoln's Inn

Crawford Callum Douglas Lindsay, QC, has been elected a Bencher.

Latest wills

Mr Raymond David **Long**, of Saham Toney, Norfolk, left estate valued at £1,047,419 net. He died intestate.

Mr Richard Gittins **Wall**, of Kelmarsh, Northamptonshire, left estate valued at £1,295,607 net.

He forgave a loan and left £141,500 and effects to personal legatees, £5,000 each to Northamptonshire and Shropshire County Cricket Clubs, and a silver gilt dessert service and 1/10th of the residue to Clare College, Cambridge, 2/15ths of the residue to Kelmarsh Church, 1/5th of the residue to Market Harborough Parish Church, 1/10th of the residue each to Baschurch Parish Church, Salop, and Peterborough Diocesan Board of Finance, to augment clergy stipends, 3/10ths of the residue to the League of Friends of Market Harborough Hospitals and 1/50th of the residue each to Penton Parish Church, Salop and the Railway Benevolent Institution.

Lieutenant Colonel Lionel Edgar **Trueman**, of West Kirby, Merseyside, left estate valued at £608,018 net. He left £1,000 to the Not Forgotten Association.

Other estates include (net, before tax):

Mr Dennis Jack **Fletcher**, of Bradford, West Yorkshire ..... £1,161,877.

Mr Norman **Gilbey**, of Edgware, Middlesex ..... £1,320,319.

Mr Richard Edgar Ralph **Green**, of Wadhurst, East Sussex £791,277.

Mr Julian Leopold **Hardman**, of Buckhurst Hill, Essex ..... £613,780.

Mrs Susan Astle **Munn**, of Dalham, Suffolk ..... £524,991.

Mr Dennis Harold Ebert **Murphy**, of Bramley, Surrey £1,997,628.

Mr Jim **Reade**, of Faringdon, Oxfordshire ..... £509,083.

Royal College of General Practitioners

The following candidates were successful in the Membership Examination of the Royal College of General Practitioners in October/-December 1994: (* denotes a pass with distinction)

F A Abbott; L J Adams; G N Ahrens; O R V Aldridge; C M Allan; G Allen; C Ambury; C A E Amobi; S J Anderson; J Andrews; I F Appelovist; D A Arathoon; R D J Archer; L A Arundell; E J Ashpole; S J Atherton; K Attwood; L A Ayling*; S S Azfar; T A Ballward; B C Baker; R W Baker; P A G Bakker; J M Balderamos-Price; P C Banks; M Bannister; M Barley; R E Barnard; S Barnes; S M Barnett; D Barrington-Ward; U M Barry; M C Bartlett; A Bashir; T Beardsworth; J Bedford; E Bell; P J Bennett; A J J Bentley; P M Beresford; E P Berry; S J Bird; L G Bloch; R Bodalia; H R L Bond; A D W Bone; P A Bonsall; C S Boon; J P Boyd; J J Boyle; A R Bradley; R J Bramley; S C Breese; S A Brencilley; J P Broughan; M D Broughton; C K Brown; L Brown; M B Brown; J Buchan; E I J Buckley; G I M Buerstedde; J C Bulley; M I Burgin; J Burner; J A Burnett; J E Burns; S J Butcher.

S R Caesar*; A T Cameron; K J Campbell; S J Carey; J F Carman; L A Carrie; R H Cartwright; S J Caswell; S-J Chapple; S B Chatoo; N J Chawda; P T Chawla; J K Chen; S W C Chow; D Christie; G L Clayton; A Coackley; S M Coe*; J P Coffin; G Cola; D M S Collins; D A Colvin; R I Cook; M D Coombe; S M Cooper; A J Cope; O I M Corey; P J Cormie; T G Cotton; K R Couch; P Cracknell; M S Cranney; E F Craske; C U Crilly; M F Crowther; A M Crump; C A D'Arcy; M A J D'Souza; J N Dallimore; A B Daly; K Darnborough; C Davies; D Davies; E Davies; M P Davies; M J Dawson; R D Dawson; L R A Day; A Dayani; R G J De Souza*; N M Dean; P J Dean; D M Deane; R J Dell; J F R Dobbs; J M Donnelly; G S Doran; N R C Dormer; H E Douse; S P M Dowley; A P Doyle; R M Durkan; C Easom; S Ebeid; R J F Ede; M M F Elfarra; N M Elliott; N Elphick; J A Erskine; A Esslemont; D O Evans; V L Evans; G F F Evans-Bolliot; T K W Evely.

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Nature notes

As snow enfolds the mountains and moors, birds of prey drift further afield. Some of the red kites re-introduced in Wales have been seen over the border in England; those that stay in the hills turn to rubbish dumps to find food, or seek out dead sheep in the snow. Common buzzards are roaming more widely, and after the influx of rough-legged buzzards along the east coast in the autumn, they have been reported soaring over many parts of the country. Wax wings were feeding at the weekend in gardens near Sainsbury's in the centre of Middlesbrough, Cleveland. Some weeping willows have still not lost their leaves, and yellow-green needles linger among the crowded cones on the larch twigs. The feathery seeds of old man's beard sprawling over the hedges look like drifts of grey snow. The hairy, aromatic leaves of ground ivy carpet the edges of the woods and muddy roadside verges: these are the leaves of next year's flowering plants, but most of them will be buried by other vegetation in the spring. Grass snakes are sleeping among sticks and dead leaves, adders in dry hollows under the heather.



The Buzzard

DJM

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Archaeology

Broken ribs 'did not kill Alpine Iceman'

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

RADIOLOGICAL study of the 5,300-year-old Alpine "Iceman" has shown that his broken ribs, the source of much speculation about his manner of death, were in fact healing or healed.

Eight fractured ribs were found, but the breaks may have occurred on several occasions. Dr William A. Murphy Jr told the Radiological Society of North America.

The new information contradicts the popular thesis, advanced by Professor Konrad Spindler of Innsbrück University, that the man had fled, wounded, from some disaster that had overwhelmed his village [*The Times*, December 5, 1994].

It also refutes a suggestion, by Professor Andreas Lippert, of the University of Vienna, that the ribs could have been broken post-mortem, or even when the Iceman's body was being recovered by police three years ago.

The radiology programme, during which more than 2,000 images were taken, has also shown that the man, although under 40 when he died, already suffered from osteoarthritis in his neck, lower back and one hip, Dr Murphy said.

Calcium deposits in his blood vessels indicate hardening of the arteries, but whether these afflictions were common for a man of that age in prehistory is not known. "He's the only reference point we have for 5,300 years ago," Dr Murphy said.

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BIRTHS

BARROW - Christopher and Belinda (née Rudd) are delighted to announce the arrival of their daughter, Melissa Alice, a sister for Thomas and Alexander, at the Matilda Hospital, Hong Kong on Tuesday, 13th December, 1994.

DENOON DUNCAN - On December 14th, 1994, to Nicola (née Todhunter) and James, a son, Alexander James.

HUNTER - On 16th December 1994, to Sherraz (née Patel) and Graham, a son, Carl Blane.

MERRELL on Dec 12 to Rosanna (née Wilson Stephens) & Hugh twins Angus James & Sophie Alice.

MUSSELL - On December 9th, at St. Richard's Chichester, to Louise (née Harris) and James, a daughter, Caitlin Rose, sister for Rebecca.

NEWHAM - On December 16th, to Cathryn (née Whaley) and David, a daughter, Olivia Daisy Eve.

ROTHMAN - Isabella Florence was born on 11th December 1994 to Lucy and James, a sister for Georgia

SMITH-BINGHAM on December 16th in New Zealand to Kate and Mark, a son Barnaby Mark.

DEATHS

ADAMS on December 16th in Welwyn, Herts, peacefully in his sleep at the age of 81. Pat (Arthur Roland) Adams, darling husband of Vida and beloved father of Carolyn and Jo and dear brother of Caroline. So many will miss his warmth, his wit. 'Journeys end in lovers meeting'. Funeral at St Mary's, Welwyn on Thursday December 22nd at 3.15 pm. Flowers to Geo. Blow, Welwyn. 0438 714686.

BOOTH - On December 16th, while asleep at home, John Wells, aged 91. Mourned by his family and many friends. Funeral at Hartest Parish Church on Thursday December 29th at 12 noon.

DANIEL - Moira on 16th of December, peacefully after a short illness. Beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Private funeral on 23rd December, flowers if desired to F.W. Paine, 108 High Street, Esher. Memorial Requiem Mass in the New Year. Details from 071 736 8079.

DAVIES - Frederick William Thomas F.R.C.S. Peacefully in hospital on December 16th, 1994. Dearly loved by Ursula, William and Diana. Funeral Service to be held at St Wystans Church, Brethy Village, Burton-on-Trent, on Thursday December 22nd at 2pm. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu may be sent for The British Heart Foundation, to Mr J. Hatwell, 22 Denton Road, Burton-on-Trent, all enquiries please to Wellings Funeral Service. Tel: 0283 565555.

DEATHS

DE LA MARE - On December 16th 1994, in his native Jersey, Sir Arthur de la Mare, KCMG, KCVO, retired member of HM Diplomatic Service, widowed husband of Lady Katherine Elizabeth and father of their three daughters Kathy, Marguerite and Billie and grandfather of eight grandchildren in Pennsylvania, USA and Melbourne Australia and Devon. Enquiries to H.W. Maillard & Son Ltd, Funeral Directors. tel (0534) 37291

HODGE - Barbara, died on 14th December 1994. Fond aunt to Mary's children and their families, and good friend to many teachers and students, not only of Classics. Funeral service at Holy Trinity Church, Clapham Common, on Thursday 22nd December at 1.30pm. Donations or enquiries, to Trinity Hospice. 071-622 9481.

LOGAN - Mary, on 14th December 1994. Beloved wife of Brian, much loved mother of Shirley and David and dear grandmother, and great-grandmother. Funeral service at St. Peter's Church, Linchmere at 11.30am on Thursday 22nd December. Family flowers only. Donations in her memory, may be sent to Linchmere 900 Fund (For Church Memorial Wall) C/o Hooker, Sonray, Hillside Road, Cansdale, Haslemere, Surrey.

MILLWARD - On December 16th 1994, peacefully in hospital, Angela Gillian (née Bodman) aged 62. Dearly loved wife of Dick and mother of John, Clare and Charles. Service and committal at Canford Crematorium, Bristol, Thursday December 22nd at 2pm. Family flowers only please, but donations, if desired, to Frenchay Hospital, c/o Mrs C. Foster, Room 2, Admin Block, Frenchay Hospital, Bristol BS16 1LE.

DEATHS

MORCOM-HARNESS - On December 16th 1994, Margaret, aged 89 years, peacefully at home. No flowers by request. Donations may be sent to the Church of England Pensions Board, c/o Harpins Funeral Service, 7 Backmount Pleasant, Wakefield WF1 4NP.

SLADE - Brian. O.B.E. Peacefully in the Churchill Hospital Oxford. Ex-Judiciary, Uganda, and R.T.J.T.B. Dearly loved husband and friend of June, much loved father of Michael, Susan, Deborah and Judith, and grandfather of George, Daniel and Megan. Funeral at St Peter and Paul, Wormingehall, on Thursday 29th December, at 11.30 am. Followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Cancer Research c/o F.J Wilson, F.D. Haddenham 0844 291200.

THOMAS - On December 16th, peacefully at West Cornwall Hospital, Penzance, Jane Quintrell aged 92, of Penare Porthleven, Cornwall, dearest mummy of Daphne, and Mother in law of George, and loving Grandma of Tom, and Emma, also beloved Aunt and Great Aunt of her nieces and nephews. Funeral service on Wednesday December 21st at Breage Parish Church, 2pm. Further enquiries to 0736 64903.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

KEAY - Anthony. Died one year ago today, bravely, after a long and dreadful illness. Remembered by Lorelei, David, Simon and Justin. Our thoughts, love, prayers are with you always.

WARD - Wilfrid John Francis. Much loved husband of Jean and father of John and Joanna. 10th December 1931-19th December 1992.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ALTERNATIVE MULTIMEDIA CHRISTMAS CARD

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A Merry Christmas from ELMWOOD.

I would like to wish everyone a magical Xmas and a happy New Year! Also a special thanks to Chris Mayberry for choosing the right of clubs, regards Howard.

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MISS Cecil Armitage wishes all her friends a Happy Christmas.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WIARD - Charles A. MBE., Mrs E. Wiard and family, wish to thank friends and neighbours for their kindness at this time of great loss; also for their floral tributes and donations to Brith Heart Foundation.

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Court & Social Page

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Notices to appear on Saturday, December 24; Monday, December 26; Tuesday, December 27; Wednesday, December 28 should be received in writing by 12 noon on Thursday, December 22

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OBITUARIES

LORD PITT OF HAMPSTEAD

Lord Pitt of Hampstead, politician and president of the British Medical Association, 1985-86, and chairman of the GLC, 1974-75, died yesterday aged 81. He was born on October 3, 1913.



DAVID PITT should have been the first black Labour MP. In 1970 he had been selected to fight the Labour-held seat of Clapham in south London. Inheriting a majority of more than 4,000, he was confidently expected to win. But a combination of national disenchantment with the Wilson Government — and what many detected as straight local racial prejudice — saw him lose by one of the largest swings (over 10 per cent) in the entire country. Bitterly disappointed though he was — he never stood for the House of Commons again — Pitt recovered from the blow and went on to become both chairman of the GLC and president of the British Medical Association, as well as sitting in the House of Lords from 1975 onwards.

David Thomas Pitt was a West Indian doctor who settled in London in 1947. Born in the village of Hampstead on the island of Grenada, he was pleased to take the style for his life peerage as Lord Pitt of Hampstead, thus neatly combining his place of birth with the part of London in which he lived, and where he had fought his first unsuccessful parliamentary election against the Conservative Cabinet minister, Henry Brooke, in 1959.

Schooled in Grenada, he won the island's single scholarship in 1932 to Edinburgh University, where he graduated MB and ChB. He always maintained that it was the Depression years in Edinburgh which made him into a socialist, and he joined the Labour Party. Returning to the West Indies, he settled in Trinidad, working at first in hospitals. It was there that he met and married his wife Dorothy. He established himself in general practice in San Fernando, in the oilfields district of the island. Soon elected to the borough council, he founded his own political party, the West Indian National Party, with very radical policies for its day. He came to Britain in 1947 to lobby the Attlee Government, many of whose leading personalities he knew, for far-reaching advances in Trinidad's constitutional status. He failed, and decided in 1949 to remain in Britain, rather than go back home and start up all over again.

He established himself as a general practitioner in Euston, but in 1953 he again became involved in Labour Party activities, and in 1957 he was selected to fight Hampstead (at that year's Labour Party conference he was given an ovation when he arrived to speak at the podium before he had even opened his mouth). After his defeat at Hampstead in 1959, he fought the London County Council elections at Hackney in 1961 and was elected. He remained at County Hall — after the LCC was transmogrified into the GLC in 1964 — going on to be deputy chairman in 1969-70 and chairman in 1974-75. It was Pitt who gave an impetus and a public face to the multi-racial policies of the GLC which later came so much to the fore. After Pitt retired in 1977, he left an immense fund of good will behind him. He was on cordial terms with the GLC's last leader Ken Livingstone who had succeeded him in his old GLC seat.

Because of the flavour of the times, Pitt was inevitably drawn into race relations. He had helped to calm down tension after the Notting Hill riots of 1958. He was the first and only chairman of the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination (CARD), founded at the instigation of Martin Luther King. As race relations developed an official structure, he was successively on the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants, and then deputy chairman and, briefly, chairman of the Community Relations Commission.

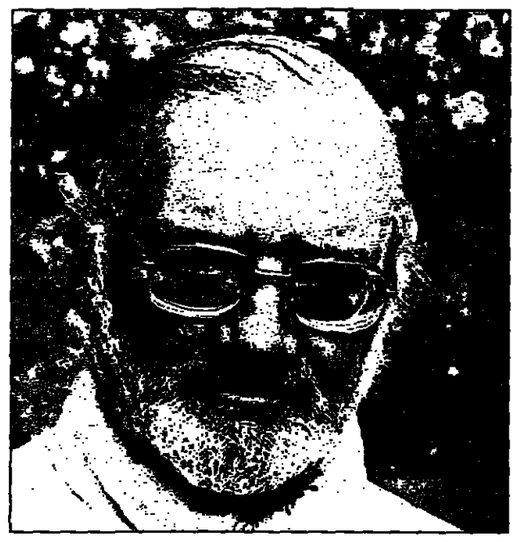
To the younger generation of black activists, often British-born, he was in their adolescence the first black person in public life with whom they could identify as an achiever (Learie Constantine, who had been created a life peer by Harold Wilson in 1969, belonged to an altogether earlier generation). But at the end of the 1970s, as racial attitudes sharpened, Pitt receded from public view. As far as black activists were concerned, he ceased to have any profile. Although he made all the right speeches on matters such as the SUSS laws he was never, from their point of view, "out there" fighting the battle. In the Lords he attended most days, and spoke often on medical matters as well as on race-related topics. He became chairman of Shelter, and kept his interest in the social services, health, welfare and education, which had so attracted him on the LCC. He chaired an inquiry into racial disturbances in Bermuda.

In 1984 he was nominated as president of the BMA for 1985-86. This pleased him more than any other honour. He considered it the most distinguished post that any doctor could be offered — indeed, it is a rare thing for a general practitioner to be so chosen. He felt strongly on the moral issues confronting doctors — he was a practising Roman Catholic and ethical issues were central to his faith and life. He was opposed to surrogate motherhood, and particularly the renting out of wombs for profit: he was for the firm regulation by the legislature of such questions as embryo research. The Conservative Government's proposals to change the structure and practices of the NHS — for example, Kenneth Clarke's introduction of a limited list of drugs that a general practitioner could prescribe — disturbed him greatly. In spirit he remained to the end a dedicated family doctor who at one stage had numbered many prominent Labour politicians among his admiring patients.

He is survived by his wife, a son and two daughters.

PETER HEBBLETHWAITE

Peter Hebblethwaite, former Jesuit priest and writer, died in Oxford yesterday aged 64. He was born on September 30, 1930.



PETER HEBBLETHWAITE, a journalist and proud to be one, was already an ordained priest when he took up his post as editor of the Jesuit review *The Month* in 1967. His chosen area of specialisation, the study of the papacy, was one which both his early training and his particular gifts as a linguist, historian and theologian ensured him a pre-eminent place. He was indeed the doyen of "Vaticanologists" and it is hard to know who will succeed him in that role.

Born in Manchester, he was educated at a local grammar school run by the De La Salle Brothers. In 1948 he joined the noviciate of the Society of Jesus at Manresa College, Roehampton. After three years' preliminary training he went to Chantilly, Paris, for a further three years of philosophy. The heady mixture of scholastic and contemporary French philosophy there, where a course on Aquinas could run side-by-side with another on Sartre, gave him an abiding interest in philosophical argument as well as a love of France and of the French langauge.

The next four years he spent studying modern languages (French and German) at Campion Hall, Oxford, where he impressed all his tutors with his brilliance and gained an unsurprising first. Two years' teaching at Mount St Mary's, near Sheffield, were followed by theology at Heythrop College in Oxfordshire in the course of which he was ordained priest (in 1963, 15 years after entering the Jesuit order). This arduous and prolonged training was rounded off by a year's "tertianship" (a third year's noviceship) at Paray-le-Monial in France. In 1965 he succeeded Father Philip Caraman as editor of *The Month*, a post he held until he left the Jesuits to marry Margaret Speaight in 1974.

The Second Vatican Council was now over but the Church was still coming to terms with all the changes this had introduced and Hebblethwaite threw all his considerable energies into interpreting them for his English contemporaries, and fostering an understanding of the events that had led up to them.

Soon after leaving the Jesuits he spent some years as a lecturer in French at Wadham College, Oxford, 1976-79, where one of his students remembers him as the most fascinating of all his teachers. He had briefly considered academia as a second career but, having always been more interested in Popes than in Pascal, he soon left Wadham. After a couple of years in Rome, however, he returned to Oxford where he lived for the rest of his life.

His publications were numerous, and included *The Runaway Church* (1975) — a masterful survey of the crisis resulting from the Second Vatican Council which really made his name, and *The Year of Three Popes*, examining the tumultuous events of 1978. But he will probably be best remembered for his biographies of two Popes: *John XXIII, Pope of the Council* (1984) and *Paul VI, The First Modern Pope* (1993), works in which his considerable skills as an historian could be brought to bear. The former — both the man and the book — was a hard act to follow, but in writing of Paul VI, Hebblethwaite came to esteem and even to like the man.

He wrote a weekly column for the American *National Catholic Reporter* and was much sought-after as a book reviewer, working for many years for *The Times* as well as for *The Independent*. His range was wide, and this year he reviewed Enoch Powell's controversial book *The Evolution of the Gospel* for *The Spectator*. He also lectured widely in this country, in Australia and in the United States.

In recent months he had become depressed by the excessive conservatism of the present Pope in matters such as the ordination of women, and was angered by what he saw as pre-emptive moves intended to guard against the possibility of radical change in the future.

A musician as well as a wordsmith (he was a proficient pianist), he stood out even among the learned by the generosity of his mind and the exceptional range of his skills and interests. He died after a brief illness, having been suffering recently from asthma and an irregular heartbeat.

He is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.

JOHN MILLER, GC

John Miller, GC, mine disposal expert and African government administrator, died on December 15 aged 91. He was born on May 22, 1903.



ON JANUARY 14, 1941, the *London Gazette* announced the King's award of three George Crosses for great gallantry and undaunted devotion to duty. One of the awards was to Probationary Temporary Sub-Lieutenant J. B. P. Miller of the RNVR, and another to Able Seaman S. J. Tuckwell.

Jack Miller and Stephen Tuckwell were members, with Jack Easton who also died recently, of a band of volunteers assembled during the Battle of Britain to deal with numbers of magnetic mines dropped in inshore waters and on land. Miller and Tuckwell formed a two-man team: one of their tasks was to disarm a mine which had fallen nose-down into the mud at the bottom of Barking Creek. They reached the mine by canoe and then by wading.

Miller later described Tuckwell's part in the affair: "At this point I regained, with an effort, an official manner and asked Tuckwell to withdraw. I said he had better take cover on the bank opposite the mine and make the usual notes. He said ... it would take him at least two hours to reach the place. Besides, I should have to work under about a foot of water, and would need someone to hand me the tools. In short, if my number was up, he would like to be with me." They worked on the mine together as the tide rose, and after removing a fuse which they had themselves hauled out of the mud by crane. Tuckwell and Miller, the mine and the canoe all came out of the creek together on the end of a cable.

Nothing in Miller's earlier life had given any indication of a propensity for heroics. John Bryan Peter Duppa-Miller was born in Stechford, Birmingham, the elder son of a solicitor who became clerk to the Devon County Council, departing from a long-standing family practice of taking Holy Orders in the Church of England.

Miller won a classical scholarship to Rugby, studied in Upper Bench under H. H. Symonds, and was head boy in 1921. He moved to Hertford College, Oxford, again as a scholar, to read Mods and Greats, and to cox the college VIII. He spent less time on his studies than with the remarkable collection of Impressionist paintings which had been assembled by his maternal uncle Sir Michael Sadler, then Master of University College. In 1926, shortly after coming down, he married Barbara Buckmaster, a daughter of the former Liberal Lord Chancellor. The marriage was to end in divorce but only after the birth of three sons.

Miller and his wife spent 18 months in Lagos, where he held various junior posts in the colonial administration before being invalided home with malaria. He then went to Westcott House, Cambridge, to study for ordination, but at a very late stage he suddenly converted to Roman Catholicism. Between 1930 and the outbreak of war he had various posts in the county education services of Hampshire and of Northamptonshire and did plenty of sailing.

He was already 37 when he volunteered for naval service in August 1940. (His younger brother Frank was a regular officer in the Navy, shortly to win the Greek War Cross for his service as flag lieutenant to Admiral Cunningham at Matapan.) The Admiralty's response was to send him a printed form regretting that no use could be found for his services: but Miller was ingenious. He returned to the charge by pointing out that their Lordships of the Admiralty had erroneously sent him the wrong form, and this show of administrative expertise elicited the offer of a commission by return of post. Like one of his sons after him, he cheated in the subsequent eyesight test.

Miller dealt personally with only 15 mines. But he was recommended for a second GC — in the event he was instead given the rare award of a King's Commendation. In 1941 he was appointed secretary to the Admiralty's inter-departmental committee on anti-submarine weapons, and continued in that and related activities until the war was over, when he was appointed as a brigadier to the Control Commission for Germany to liquidate the German stocks of underwater weapons.

The postwar years took Miller back to Africa. For two years he served as Inspector-General for Education in Haile Selassie's imperial administration, and established the new University of Addis Ababa. Then he and his second wife Clare Harding, whom he had married in 1944, moved to Kenya where he served for ten years in the government education service, and chaired the European Civil Servants' Association. A succession of agricultural experiments included growing strawberries for export.

At this period he was on intimate terms with Jomo Kenyatta, Tom Mboya and other African leaders, and gave them practical help in the foundation of the Kenyan African National Union. From 1960-61 he was secretary to the Kenya Coffee Marketing Board, and he then spent a similar period as secretary to the Tanganyika Coffee Board. After independence the new Kenyan Government gave him responsibility for land redistribution to Africans in the former White Highlands. He refused invitations to stand for election to the new Parliament. His last active involvement in African affairs was in Southern Rhodesia, where after 1965 he served Robert Mugabe as an informal adviser on economics.

After his second wife's death Miller met, and in 1977 married, Greta Landby. Thereafter they lived at Somerset West in Cape Province, South Africa, where he died. She survives him, together with the three sons of his first marriage. The eldest son is Sir Hal Miller, former Conservative MP for Bromsgrove.

In his book *Saints and Parachutes* (1951), John Miller quoted Lord Chatfield as saying that the George Cross could not be treated as a long service medal for members of the Land Incident Section. On the other hand, speaking for himself, Miller remarked that the psychological reaction to lying beneath a mine, at close quarters, was distinctly unpleasant. His apparent insouciance, so typical of the men who rendered similar service to their country, was in his case based on a simple belief: nothing in this life was of great importance. *Manent optima caelo* is the motto of his family.

PATRICK COBBOLD

Patrick Cobbold, president of Ipswich Town Football Club, died on December 16 aged 60. He was born on June 20, 1934.

THE Cobbolds had founded Ipswich Town FC. Patrick's father, John Murray Cobbold, chairman of the family brewing firm, made a vow to establish a club in his own town after going to see Arsenal perform nearly sixty years ago.

Only eight years after its foundation in 1936 he was dead. A captain in the Scots Guards during the war, he was one of those killed in the Guards Chapel when a flying bomb hit it during morning service on June 18, 1944. But his family carried on where he left off, and were eventually to see Captain Cobbold's dreams come true, as Ipswich became one of Britain's leading sides. In 1961-62, just after its promotion to the first division, the club won the Football League championship, under the managerial guidance of Alf Ramsey.

Then in 1978, two years after Patrick Cobbold had succeeded his brother John as the club chairman, it captured the FA Cup under Bobby Robson (who, like Ramsey, went on to manage England), beating Arsenal 1-0 in the Final. Three years later it brought further glory to East Anglia by lifting the Uefa Cup too — one of the more glittering prizes of European football.

Yet Patrick Mark Cobbold, a grandson of the ninth Duke of Devonshire (and nephew through marriage of the former Prime Minister Harold Macmillan), came from an unusual mould for a football club chairman. Born on the family estate at Glemham Hall, a part-Elizabethan, part-Queen Anne mansion at Woodbridge, Suffolk, he was two days short of his tenth birthday when his father died. He subsequently went to Eton, then was himself commissioned into the Scots Guards, his father's old regiment, with a view to a long-term military career.



But a near-fatal accident put paid to such ambitions. While on an army exercise in Yorkshire, he was accidentally shot in the leg by another soldier. Only his youth and his fitness enabled him to recover without the need for an amputation. Even so he was seriously ill and, although he was later to suffer no disability, the injury led to his premature discharge.

As if in compensation, he was given the job of ADC to the Governor of the Bahamas between 1957 and 1960, after which he entered the family's brewing firm. He became a director of Tolly Cobbold (the "Tolly" reflected a merger) until 1989 — when the Cobbolds sold out in a business takeover.

After his father's death, Patrick's mother, Lady Blanche, an uncle and his elder brother John, had all become closely involved with Ipswich Town. It was "Mr John" whom "Mr Patrick" (as each was known at the club's Portman Road headquarters) succeeded as chairman in 1976. There has virtually always been at least one member of the family on the board.

Nor was "Mr Patrick" a mere figurehead at the top. He reported to the chairman's office every day and attended the vast majority of matches, including important away games. On relinquishing the post of chairman four years ago, he was made president and retained his seat on the board.

A tall, genial man who enjoyed life, Patrick Cobbold also supervised the running of the family estate, although with the help of a farm manager. Apart from football, his recreations included shooting and, most of all, fishing. He was never happier than when casting for salmon in some Scottish river.

Patrick Cobbold, who was unmarried, died while taking his morning bath at Glemham Hall. His brother John died 11 years ago and he is survived by only one of their two sisters. The crowd at Ipswich's home game against Wimbledon on the evening following his death stood for a minute's silence before the kick-off.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Jeremy Ive, Curate, Ivybridge: to be Priest-in-charge, Abbotskerswell (Exeter).

The Rev Roger Jackson, Vicar, united benefice of Barton w Peel Green (Manchester): to be Priest-in-charge, Long Crendon, w Chearsley and Nether Winchendon (Oxford).

The Rev David James, Vicar, the Haldon Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, Sid Valley Team Ministry (Exeter).

The Rev Nicola Jay, Assistant Curate, Whitburn: to be Priest-in-charge, united benefice of Sacriston w Kimblesworth (Durham).

The Rev Maureen Jewell, formerly Parish Deacon (NSM), Chichester St Wilfrid: now Parish Deacon (NSM), Storrington (Chichester).

The Rev Tony Keddie, Rector, Fountains group of parishes, and Chaplain at Fountains Abbey: to be *also* an Honorary Canon of Ripon Cathedral (Ripon).

The Rev Charles Laycock, Rector, St Matthew w St Mary, Crumpsall: now Vicar, Christ Church, Ashton-under-Lyne (Manchester).

The Rev Anthony Macpherson, Vicar, Grimethorpe: to be Priest-in-charge, St Michael's, Westgate Common, Wakefield (Wakefield).

The Rev Terry Martin, Curate, Shoreham Old and Shoreham New and Diocesan Music Adviser (Chichester): to be Vicar, Lower Beeding, and Chaplain to the Bishop of Horsham, same diocese.

The Rev Terry Munro, Rector, Woodhouse and Wrangthorn, and Diocesan Ecumenical Officer (Ripon): to be *also* an Honorary Canon of Ripon Cathedral.

The Rev Christopher Newell, Rector, St Agnes, Birch in Rusholme: now also Priest-in-charge, St John, Longsight (Manchester).

The Rev Ashby Owens, Vicar, Brinnington w Portwood (Chester): to be Team Rector, New Bury, Farnworth (Manchester).

The Rev Keith Smith, Curate (NSM), West Worthing St John the Divine: to be Curate (NSM), Maybridge (Chichester).

The Rev Andrew Spear, Curate, Eastbourne Holy Trinity: to be Curate, Patcham All Saints and Curate-in-charge, Westdene (Chichester).

Resignations and retirements

The Rev Paddy Askew, Vicar, Markington w South Stainley and Bishop Thornton (Ripon): retired as from October 15.

The Rev Paul Cadogan, Rector, Standlake, Stanton Harcourt, Northmoor and Yelford (Oxford): has resigned.

The Rev Michael Gabriel, Curate, Kingston Buci (Chichester): now retired.

The Rev Geoffrey Holness, Chaplain, Brighton Royal Sussex Hospital and Brighton Sussex Eye Hospital (Chichester): now resigned.

The Rev Preb Alan Hopes, Vicar, St Paul, Tottenham (London): resigned as from November 30.

The Rev Ian Pelton, Vicar, Coxhoe St Mary (Durham): to retire as from January 31 1995.

The Rev Barry Smart, Team Vicar, St Michael and All Angels, Abingdon (Oxford): has resigned.

The Rev Howard Sutcliffe, Vicar, St Paul's, Oldham (Manchester): resigned as from June 1994.

The Rev Christopher Tuckwell, Vicar, St Mary, Lansdowne Road, Tottenham (London): resigned as from October 31.

A MOST MELANCHOLY DISEASE

A most melancholy instance of the hydrophobia has recently occurred, the particulars of which are as follows: Mr Henry Waylin, apothecary, of North Audley-street so long ago as June last, was bit in the hand by a small dog that he attempted to take up near his own door, supposing it to be lost. He applied in consequence to Mr Thompson, the surgeon, in the same street, who asked if he had any reason to suppose that the dog was mad. He said, none at all; and the wound was, therefore, treated as an ordinary bite, and cured in the regular course, without any untoward symptom whatever.

On Sunday last Mr Thomson [sic] was called in to attend Mr Waylin, of what the family supposed to be a violent sore throat. He found him perfectly cool and intelligent, and received the following account of his complaint: On Friday preceding, he had dined out, and discovered in himself an unaccountable aversion to any liquor when he attempted to drink it. This surprised him a little, but created no alarm. In the evening he returned home with general symptoms of slight indisposition, which, with the aversion to liquor, increased in the course of the next day; and very early on Sunday morning he was attacked with violent spasms, attended with the greatest horror, if any thing, whether liquid or solid, approached his mouth. From this description it was directly suspected that he was seized with the hydrophobia: Sir Lucas Pepys was called in, and he was treated accordingly. The symptoms of this disease, however, soon increased to the utmost degree of violence. He was at times so frantic and outrageous, that it became necessary to have him put in a straight waistcoat, and strapped down in bed. In this state he continued until Monday evening at six o'clock, when he expired in the utmost agony. Mr Waylin had been, for some time previous to this attack, rather dull and irritable, though his natural disposition was much the reverse.

On the 8th inst. there was a great ploughing match at Pennycuik House, Scotland. Thirty-three ploughs started for the premiums, which were given by Sir John Clerk, Bart. The highest premium was a medal, and a plough made by Thomas Liddsay, at Abbeyhill, with an improved muzzle, by Duncan Clark, of Tyre; and the next, a turnip plough ... A very great concourse of people from all parts of the country were assembled; and there is no doubt but much real knowledge in the nature and management of that most useful instrument, the plough, must have been acquired by the young ploughmen who attended on that day; and it is ardently wished, that other parts of Scotland would ofmer adopt these ploughing machines, which do much good by creating an emulation and rivalship among that class of people.

ON THIS DAY

December 19 1794

The eradication of rabies, or hydrophobia, in Britain began in 1903 with the introduction of quarantine, in the face of opposition from dog owners.

THE TIMES TODAY MONDAY DECEMBER 19 1994

NEWS

Aitken urges manifesto pledge

■ A manifesto commitment to put any future proposed constitutional changes to a referendum is being urged on John Major by a group of Cabinet ministers led by Jonathan Aitken, the Treasury Chief Secretary.

The proposed pledge would cover threatened domestic upheavals, such as Scottish devolution, as well as Britain's future relationship with continental Europe .....Page 1

Yeltsin rejects Chechen offer

■ The Kremlin rejected the latest offer of President Dudayev, the Chechen nationalist leader, to negotiate an end to the Chechenia crisis. The rebel leader had sent a telegram to President Yeltsin, agreeing to meet Nikolai Yegorov, the Russian Deputy Prime Minister in charge of nationalities, for talks aimed at avoiding all-out war ..... Page 1

Schools row

The Labour frontbench became embroiled in a new education dispute after it emerged that the party's schools spokesman sends his son to a state secondary that is allegedly seeking to become a grammar ..... Page 1

Seasonal shopping

Retailers are pinning their hopes on Christmas coming later than ever this year as many reported continued caution on the part of festive shoppers ..... Page 1

Statue for library

A 12ft-high statue of Sir Isaac Newton by Sir Eduardo Paolozzi is to be erected at the British Library in London ..... Page 1

Cash challenge

Victims of crime such as rape or assault who are awarded compensation may have to hand back some of their money if the Government fails to reverse a ruling that its compensation scheme is unlawful ..... Page 2

QE2 campaign

Passengers booked on a *QE2* cruise who were left on the quayside when the ship sailed on Saturday have formed a group to sue Cunard ..... Page 3

Pulpit power

Crown Prince Hassan bin Talal of Jordan has accepted an invitation to preach at Christ Church, Oxford, the first non-Christian to be invited ..... Page 5

Roads dispute

Office parking spaces are to be reduced to discourage car commuters. The plan is one of several the Government is pursuing as an official report admits that some new roads are increasing congestion ..... Page 6

Evolutionary assault

No theory has endured a more intellectual assault during its relatively short lifetime than that of evolution. *Agenda* ..... Page 7

Carter's mission

Jimmy Carter, the former US President, began a peace mission in the former Yugoslavia in an optimistic mood ..... Page 8

Russian fears

Muscovites who admit how much they dread the prospect of a war against the Chechens do not fear the fighting in the Caucasus so much as the threat of a conflict much nearer home ..... Page 9

Chirac's gambit

With Jacques Delors out of the French presidential race, Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, has made a grab for territory on the Left ..... Page 10

Mandela's demand

President Mandela, opening the forty-ninth African National Congress conference at the weekend, called on its members urgently to redouble their efforts to hasten "visible change" in South Africa ..... Page 11

Santa with Aids sues over dismissal

■ A former Santa Claus has sued Macy's department store in New York for £1.9 million, claiming that he lost his job distributing toys because he has Aids. Mark Woodley intends to prove that the world's largest department store has refused to re-employ him since 1989 because he wrote on a form that he was taking the Aids medication AZT ..... Page 1



RICK RYCROFT

A replica of Captain Cook's *Endeavour*, built for Australia's bicentenary, in Sydney Harbour on her maiden voyage from Perth

BUSINESS

Saatchi battle: Alastair Ross Goobey, the investment chief of Postel, tried in vain to save Maurice Saatchi's position at the head of the advertising agency he formed with his brother in the 1970s. Now Mr Saatchi is weighing up whether to start again ..... Page 40

Takeover bid: Trafalgar House is expected to launch a £1.25 billion hostile bid for Northern Electric. The company was forced to signal its intention to bid last week and is keen to get out the details quickly ..... Page 40

New markets: Ford's decision to produce one range of vehicles for its global markets is opening up opportunities for UK suppliers. Ford's Belfast plant is among the first to benefit ..... Page 37

FEATURES

Genetic influences: Is it true that most people have no understanding of the laws of chance? Jon Turney reports ..... Page 14

Pope's choice: Walter Ellis on the man who must take the Irish Church by the scruff of the neck and drag it to sanctity ..... Page 15

EDUCATION

Back burner: One of the puzzles of the current education scene is why the greatly increased GCSE science entry has not fed through into A levels ..... Page 34

Magic idea: In the increasingly commercialised Christmas, how fares the myth and legend of Santa Claus, and how do teachers handle it? ..... Page 34

ARTS

Double first: The bass John Tomlinson not only sang the title role, he also directed Opera North's new production of Verdi's first surviving opera, *Oberto* ..... Page 12

No edge: Max Stafford-Clark is one of our tougher-minded theatre directors, but with his revival of Etherege's Restoration comedy, *The Man of Mode*, he is obliged to be unwontedly bland ..... Page 13

Pantomime star: The sight of Jack Tripp, coiffed like a bright orange poodle, pirouetting to expose knickers in *Babes in the Wood*, will not soon be forgotten ..... Page 13

A tale of doubles: Yorkshire's two most famous artistic sons, David Hockney and Alan Bennett, are often mistaken for one another ..... Page 13



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ FOND FAREWELL
Matthew Bond on the final episode of Desmond's (left)

■ BOOKED UP
Times writers select the best books for the sports-mad reader

Football: Even Glen Hoddle, the player-manager, could not inspire Chelsea to victory as Liverpool held on for a 0-0 draw at Stamford Bridge ..... Page 25

Golf: Ernie Els, of South Africa, won the Johnnie Walker world championship by six strokes. Britain's Nick Faldo and Mark McCumber, of the United States, were joint second ..... Page 23

Rugby union: Richmond reached the fifth round of the Pilkington Cup, beating Tabard 24-16. On Saturday, Bath, the holders, swept through easily ..... Pages 28, 29

Football: The sport has discovered a highly-successful way of improving a club's finances: enlightened merchandising has set their tills ringing merrily ..... Page 27

Rugby league: Keighley Cougars roar into the quarter-finals of the Regal Trophy for the first time in 18 years ..... Page 32

Sport for all: An exhilarating day out speeding around the track at Brands Hatch provided some heart-stopping moments for Alexandra Frean ..... Page 32

Greyhound racing: Clement Freud recalls the winter's afternoon he went to the dogs and put his money on a brindle bitch called Melodious Celery ..... Page 32

Equestrianism: Nick Skelton must decide which of two horses he will compete with today in the Grand Prix at the Olympia show jumping championships ..... Page 22

Preview: Mel Smith is a disorganised solicitor with an awkward client and a rocky marriage in *Milner* (BBC1, 9.30pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss finds a curious parallel between Typhoid Mary and the fictional poisoner ..... Page 39

The restless ranter

South Africa's President appears to have laid to rest fears that he might dilute his economics with a dangerous dash of populism ..... Page 17

The wrong messenger

Jesse Jackson, plans to lecture the British on racism. But compared with America, Britain is still notable for tolerance ..... Page 17

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

The big lottery winners will become public benefactors by doing for the rest of us the saving that the State will not let us do for ourselves ..... Page 16

MATTHEW PARRIS

Instead of calling the NHS a free health service for all, we might equally call it a massive transfer of funds to the elderly ..... Page 16

PETER RIDDELL

Senior ministers are near desperation about the malaise in the parliamentary party ..... Page 16

Lord Pitt of Hampstead, politician, president of the BMA, 1985-86, chairman of the GLC, 1974-75; **John Miller, GC,** mine disposal expert and African government administrator ..... Page 19

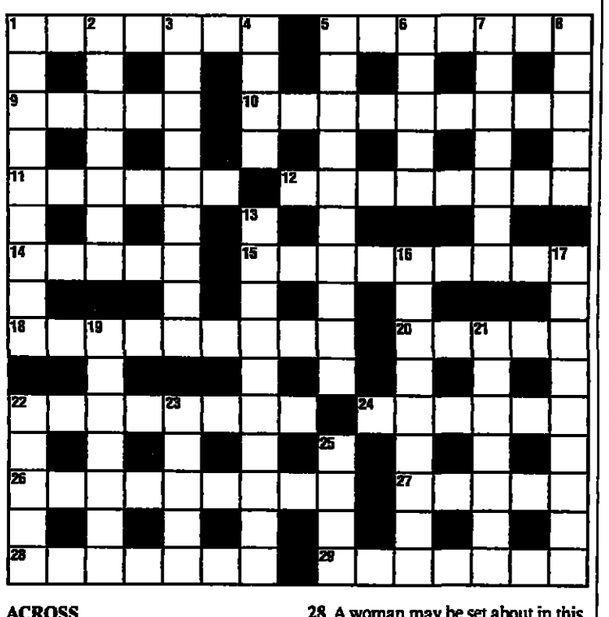
GPs' fundholding arrangements; referendum on Europe ..... Page 17

Most of the Government's troubles can be summed up in a single phrase: it seems to be drifting
—The Mail on Sunday

The British used to regard the Americans as a nation enslaved by television and sliding into complacency and stupidity. Now, we are dazzled by triviality. We have probably got the lottery we deserve
—Independent on Sunday

3 5 9 13 14 38. Bonus number: 30

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,729



ACROSS

1 Search for a spirit by a wizard (7)
5 Placed in a pipe, so it's believed (7)
9 Perfect tone (5)
10 Profession offering security (9)
11 At home before the action, certainly (6)
12 A duck (8)
14 Backing a fiddle in a game (5)
15 Greek maiden borne by an Arabian dromedary (9)
18 Translation by girl gives rise to amusement (9)
20 It gives us time to muse (5)
22 An artist's little boys given a mitre to dress up (8)
24 People note such an inflorescence (6)
26 The inspiration of a supporter in a flap (5-4)
27 Taking in an egghead? Ridiculous (5)
28 A woman may be set about in this place (7)
29 Sharp as the fellow playing with words (7)

DOWN

1 Discerned corruption, so withdrew (9)
2 Talk in a rambling way, being one degree under (7)
3 A German article about an outfit's director (9)
4 It's forced up in the Netherlands (4)
5 A defendant with grudge about a pool of water (10)
6 Bag a prize (5)
7 Line set wrongly can get stretched (7)
8 Trepidation causing small daughter to peruse books (5)
13 An individual who sits and tries (10)
16 Relation seen in public performance (9)
17 Possibly name ten to get compensation (9)
19 A bloomer those lacking heart fail to observe (7)
21 To say how old a person is would appear mean (7)
22 Superior, being in order (5)
23 Bondsman showing hesitation that is without point (5)
25 Hop field, quiet (4)

Times Two Crossword, page 40

KNOCKANDO

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,728 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts, Glouc, Avon, Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day temp: Prestatyn, Clwyd, 14C (57F); lowest day max: Buxton, Derbyshire, 9C (48F); highest rainfall: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries and Galloway, 0.71in, highest sunshine: Folkestone, Kent, 1.1hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have clear or sunny spells but there will also be scattered showers, especially in the West and North. Snow is likely on hills, particularly the Lake District and the Pennines.

Northern Ireland will have sunny intervals and wintry showers. Eastern Scotland will have sun and showers while the West and North will have more showers and less sun. There will be snow, with drifting over hills. Hail and thunder are possible. It will be windy, up to gale force in the North, making near normal temperatures feel decidedly chilly.

☐ **London, E Anglia, E, W Midlands, E England:** clear or sunny spells. Isolated showers. Wind southwest becoming west moderate or fresh. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **SE, SW, Central S England, Channel Isles, S Wales:** clear or sunny spells and scattered showers. Wind southwest veering northwest fresh. Max 9C (48F)

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N, SW Scotland, Glasgow:** sun and showers, wintry on hills. Wind southwest to west fresh or strong. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth:** clear or sunny spells. Isolated wintry showers. Wind southwest to west fresh or strong. Max 6C (43F)

☐ **Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** wintry showers, drifting over hills. Perhaps hail, thunder. Wind west or northwest, strong or gale. Max 7C (45F)

☐ **NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** frequent wintry showers, perhaps hail, thunder. Wind south strong or gale, veering west fresh. Max 5C (41F)

☐ **Outlook:** showers dying out during Tuesday, then rain spreading southeast during Wednesday.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.04	13	55	r	Littlehmptn	-	0.01	12	54	c
Anglesey	-	0.08	12	54	r	Liverpool	0.2	0.02	13	55	r
Aspatria	X					London	-	-	12	54	r
Aviemore	-	0.20	11	52	r	Lowestoft	X				
Belfast	-	0.42	12	54	sh	Manchester	-	-	12	54	c
Birmingham	-	-	11	52	c	Margate	X				
Bognor R	-	-	12	54	du	Minehead	X				
Bournem'th	X					Morecambe	X				
Bristol	0.6	-	12	54	c	Newcastle	-	-	12	54	r
Buxton	-	0.06	9	48	du	Newquay	-	-	13	55	c
Cardiff	0.2	-	12	54	c	Norwich	-	-	11	52	c
Clacton	0.2	-	11	52	c	Nottingham	-	-	11	52	c
Cleethorpes	X					Oxford	0.5	-	12	54	c
Colwyn Bay	X					Penzance	X				
Cromer	-	-	13	52	c	Plymouth	-	-	12	54	c
Doncaster	-	-	11	52	c	Poole	-	0.01	13	55	c
Dunbar	X					Prestatyn	X	0.04	14	57	c
Eastbourne	X					Ross-o-wye	X				
Edinburgh	-	0.08	13	55	r	Ryde	X				
Eskdalemuir	-	0.56	10	50	r	Salcombe	X				
Exmouth	-	0.01	13	55	c	Sandown	X				
Falmouth	X	-	13	55	c	Saunton Snd	-	-	12	54	c
Fishguard	-	0.13	12	54	r	Scarboro'	X				
Folkestone	1.1	-	12	54	b	Scilly Isles	-	-	12	54	c
Glasgow	-	0.21	13	55	r	Shanklin	-	0.02	12	54	r
Guernsey	0.1	0.03	13	55	sh	Shrewsbury	-	-	12	54	c
Hastings	X					Skegness	-	-	11	52	c
Hayling I.	X					Southend	0.5	-	12	54	c
Herne Bay	1.0	-	12	54	c	Southport	-	0.04	13	55	r
Hove	-	-	12	54	du	Southsea	X				
Hunstanton	-	-	11	52	du	Stornoway	0.2	0.61	11	52	r
Ilfracombe	X					Swanage	-	0.05	13	55	sh
Isle of Man	-	0.20	13	55	r	Teignmouth	-	0.01	13	55	c
Jersey	X					Tenby	-	-	13	55	c
Kinloss	-	0.03	13	55	c	Tiree	1	0.39	11	52	r
Leeds	-	-	12	54	c	Torquay	0.2	0.11	13	55	c
Lerwick	-	0.21	9	48	r	Weymouth	-	0.02	12	54	c
Leuchars	-	0.10	13	55	r						

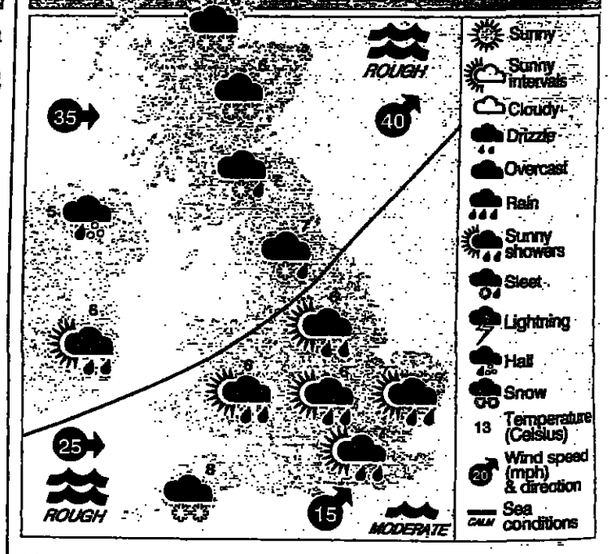
These are Saturday's figures

ABROAD

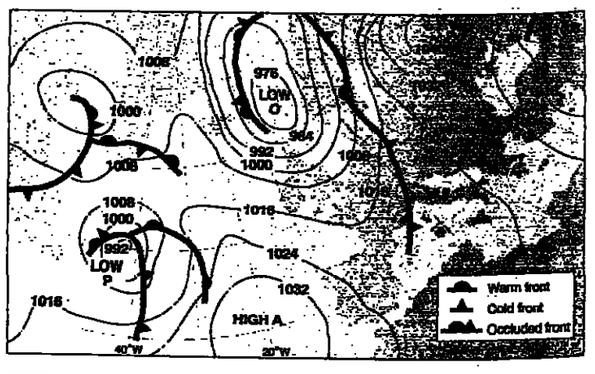
Ajaccio	15	59	f	Corfu	11	52	s	Majorca	13	55	f
Akrotiri	13	55	s	Dublin	4	39	s	Malaga	18	64	s
Alex'dria	13	55	cl	Dubrovnik	10	50	s	Malta	17	63	s
Algiers	17	63	f	Faro	17	63	f	Melb'rne	26	79	s
Amst'dm	6	43	f	Florence	4	39	s	MexicoC	nr		
Athens	7	45	f	Frankfurt	5	41	c	Miami	27	81	c
Bahrain	24	75	s	Funchal	20	68	s	Milan	5	41	c
Bangkok	30	86	f	Geneva	4	39	s	Montreal	1	34	f
Barcelona	9	48	f	Gibraltar	17	63	s	Moscow	-24	-11	s
Beirut	12	54	f	Helsinki	-4	25	c	Munich	1	34	c
Belgrade	4	39	s	HongK	19	66	s	Nairobi	2475		s
Berlin	2	36	f	Innsbrck	2	36	s	Naples	11	52	s
Bermuda	20	68	f	Istanbul	3	37	cl	NDelhi	19	66	s
Biarritz	11	52	f	Jeddah	27	81	s	NYork	6	43	dr
Bord'x	9	48	c	Jo'burg	26	79	s	Nice	11	52	f
Brussels	7	45	s	Karachi	28	82	s	Oslo	6	43	r
Budapst	4	39	s	LPalmas	22	72	s	Paris	6	43	c
BAires	25	77	s	LaTquet	8	46	f	Peking	-1	30	s
Cairo	16	61	f	Lisbon	10	50	f	Perth	31	88	s
CapeTn	25	77	s	Locarno	4	39	s	Prague	1	34	s
Chicago	3	37	f	LAngels	20	68	s	Reykjavik	-4	25	sn
Ch'church	23	73	s	Luxembg	1	34	c	Rhodes	10	50	s
Cologne	4	39	c	Luxor	19	66	s	RiodeJ	30	86	f
C'phagn	3	37	c	Madrid	5	41	f	Riyadh	27	86	s
Rome	10	50	f								
Salzburg	1	34	f								
SFrisco	8	46	cl								
Santiago	29	84	s								
SPaulo	32	90	f								
Seoul	-1	30	s								
Sing'por	27	81	f								
Stkholm	3	37	r								
Strasb'rg	5	41	f								
Sydney	25	77	cl								
Tangier	17	63	f								
TelAviv	11	52	r								
Tenerife	21	70	s								
Tokyo	10	50	s								
Toronto	4	39	cl								
Tunis	16	61	f								
Valencia	14	57	f								
Vanc'ver	9	48	f								
Venice	7	45	s								
Vienna	3	37	s								
Warsaw	1	34	c								
Wash'ton	7	45	c								
Wel'ngton	20	68	s								
Zurich	6	43	s								

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

WEATHER TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: Low O will move north and fill; Low P will move quickly northeast and fill while high A will drift east



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.10	6.7	2.32	6.7	Liverpool	11.48	9.0	—	—
Aberdeen	1.57	4.1	2.10	4.3	Lowestoft	10.09	2.4	10.18	2.6
Avonmouth	7.42	12.5	8.03	12.3	Margate	12.18	4.6	12.41	4.5
Belfast	11.37	3.5	11.55	3.2	Milford Haven	8.45	6.7	7.05	6.5
Cardiff	8.01	11.79	8.23	11.59	Newquay	5.39	6.7	6.58	6.6
Devonport	6.14	5.4	6.36	5.1	Oban	6.12	3.9	6.38	3.9
Dover	11.39	6.3	11.58	6.5	Penzance	5.10	5.5	5.33	5.2
Falmouth	5.44	5.2	6.06	4.9	Portland	7.04	2.1	—	—
Glasgow	1.33	4.5	1.33	4.8	Portsmouth	11.40	4.6	—	—
Harwich	12.12	8.8	12.29	3.7	Holyhead	10.54	5.4	11.14	5.2
Hull	6.54	6.97	7.04	7.18	Shoreham	11.40	6.0	—	—
Ilfracombe	6.30	8.82	6.51	8.66	Southampton	11.18	4.5	11.40	4.3
King's Lynn	6.57	6.2	7.10	6.5	Swansea	6.57	9.0	7.20	8.9
Leith	3.06	5.2	3.21	5.4	Tees	4.12	4.9	4.26	5.1
					Wilton-on-Nze	12.03	4.0	12.23	4.0

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 8.03 am
Sun sets: 3.53 pm
Moon sets: 8.37 am
Moon rises: 5.39 pm

London 3.53 pm to 8.03 am
Bristol 4.03 pm to 8.13 am
Edinburgh 3.39 pm to 8.42 am
Manchester 3.50 pm to 9.22 am
Penzance 4.21 pm to 8.16 am

Last Quarter December 25

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SPORT FOR ALL



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Under starter's orders at Brands Hatch

TIMES SPORT





Gatting leaves the field, blood pouring from a cut in his mouth, after being hit while fielding soon after completing a double-century in which he was at his aggressive best. Photographs: Graham Morris

Essex bowler Ilott called up to help injury-plagued England

Gatting down but not out

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN TOOWOOMBA

THE career of Mike Gatting has been one long jumble but even he has never had a day quite as contrary as this. A double-century against Queensland reaffirmed his Test credentials but, within minutes, he was being led from the field with blood pouring from his face, the victim of a rogue bounce while fielding at extra cover.

Fleetingly, it seemed that events were now mocking this injury-plagued England party and that even a rare cause for celebration was to become one more cause for concern. Memories flashed back to Jamaica in 1986, when Gatting's features were rearranged by a delivery from Malcolm Marshall. Everyone feared the worst.

But after a chaotic half-hour, during which the substitutes dispatched to England's aid included their own physiotherapist, Dave Roberts, and two local club players, the dressing-room was able to issue its first all-clear in some days. No bones were damaged, no teeth lost. Gatting had a cut inside his mouth and was feeling groggy.

It was as well the latest emergency ended there. The injuries afflicting the camp have now escalated to such proportions that it is easier to list those who remain fully fit than those with ailments. Mark Ilott yesterday became the second stand-by player to be called up and, unless there is some reassuring news in the next 48 hours, Dominic Cork could become a third. Of the six seam bowlers who started the tour, the only one available for this match was Devon Malcolm. Phil DeFreitas is resting a groin injury and should be fit for the second Test in Melbourne, which starts on Christmas Eve, but Darren Gough, who has damaged a hamstring for the second time, is a serious worry. It was his condition that convinced the tour committee to send for Ilott.

The Essex left-arm bowler was due to leave for India, with the England A team, next Wednesday. Instead, he is catching the first available flight to Melbourne, where he could conceivably find himself playing a Test match after three days in Australia.

Amid such adversity, those England players who made it onto the field were responsible for the most encouraging weekend's cricket of the tour. Against the team that believes this will be its year to win the Sheffield Shield for the first time, England amassed 507 for six in just over four sessions, then began chipping away some high-quality batting on a wearing pitch.

This is the way that successive captains and managers have beseeched England to play their Test cricket but, year after year, the mental and technical capacity to make the sort of score that will put opponents under pressure has been beyond them. In this pivotal week of the tour, with back-to-back Tests looming, the knowledge that they are capable of it is timely.

That it was orchestrated by Gatting did not, paradoxically, smooth the worry lines of the selectors. Until this weekend, Gatting had been relegated to reserve batsman. His form has been poor, his confidence low and he would not even have played here if Graham Thorpe had been fit.

Opportunist it might have been, but this innings displayed Gatting at somewhere recognisably near his best, his feet moving in a rhythm that has eluded him all tour and the short balls being clubbed away with increasing conviction. John Crawley did not exactly fail, with 91, but the intention to play him in the Test side is now likely to be shelved once again.

Gatting did the hard work on a Saturday notable for the first rain of significance in these parts since March. Yesterday, the sky was that impossibly dark blue in which Queensland specialises and this scenic ground, cut out of the side of the Darling Downs, was bustling with people and rich in colour.

This has been a big occasion for the people of Toowoomba and 5,000 turned up for the second day. Even the England players, who can be cynical and world-weary about the dubious pleasures of playing up country, are enjoying themselves, and their cricket reflected it.

Michael Atherton, who would in other circumstances be resting his back and thigh pains, batted on after lunch to allow Gatting to reach his double-hundred, by which time he had spent almost seven hours at the crease and looked exhausted. He would have given much to put his feet up for the rest of the day, though would not have volunteered for the accident that allowed him to do so.

Moving low to his left to field a drive by Trevor Barsby from Angus Fraser's first ball, Gatting was struck on the side of the face. The anxious beckoning of his team-mates hinted at panic and Gatting's bloodied appearance did nothing to allay the fears. The way the tour has gone made it seem inevitable that something would be broken.

Instead, with news that came as a relief, England raised their game. Malcolm bowled his quickest and most impressive spell of the tour, defeating both Barsby and Matthew Hayden for pace.

The spinners extracted turn and bounce, suggesting some profitable times to come, and although Stuart Law batted with enviable freedom to make 91 from 88 balls, England ended the day in a position that would cause euphoria were they to reproduce it in Melbourne a week today.

TOOWOOMBA SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND: First Innings

G A Gooch c Rowell b McDermott	50
*M A Atherton b Tazelaar	6
G A Hick c Love b Rowell	49
M W Gatting not out	203
J P Crawley c Law b Kasprowicz	91
†S J Rhodes lbw b Kasprowicz	0
S D Udal b Tazelaar	16
A J Stewart not out	53
Extras (b 4, lb 12, w 3, nb 20)	39
Total (6 wkts dec)	507

P C R Tufnell, A R C Fraser and D E Malcolm did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-106, 3-118, 4-320, 5-330, 6-382.

BOWLING: McDermott 26-5-98-1; Tazelaar 25-6-72-2; Symonds 10-2-51-0; Rowell 33-7-116-1; Kasprowicz 22-3-89-2; Maher 7-1-25-0; Hayden 7.1-0-40-0.

QUEENSLAND: First Innings

T J Barsby c Rhodes b Malcolm	15
M L Hayden c Rhodes b Malcolm	8
M L Love st Rhodes b Udal	47
S G Law c Fraser b Udal	91
J P Maher not out	22
A Symonds not out	4
Extras (lb 2, nb 8)	10
Total (4 wkts)	197

*†I A Healy, C J McDermott, G J Rowell, M S Kasprowicz and D Tazelaar to bat.

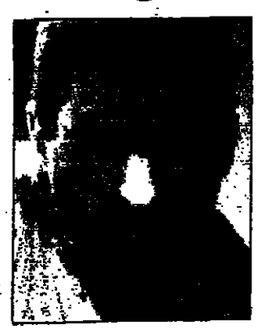
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-66, 3-116, 4-187.

BOWLING: Malcolm 11-0-50-2; Fraser 7-1-24-0; Tufnell 11-1-53-0; Udal 17-1-62-2; Hick 2-0-6-0.

Umpires: P Parker and D Holt.

Scoreboards, page 30

Hughes sidelined for next two Tests



MERV HUGHES, the Australia fast bowler, has suffered a groin strain that will rule him out of contention for the team to face England in the second and third Test matches.

Hughes, left, had been in excellent form for the Australia A team in the recent World Series one-day matches, but is likely to be out for up to ten days with an injury to the right side of his groin.

Hughes suffered the injury bowling for Victoria in a Sheffield Shield game against Western Australia. His unavailability means Australia are likely to name an unchanged 12-man squad for the second Test, which starts on Saturday at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. The third Test starts on January 1 in Sydney.

□ Sri Lanka kept alive their hopes of qualifying for the final of the Mandela Trophy with a five-wicket win over New Zealand in East London yesterday.

They now face South Africa in Port Elizabeth on Wednesday to decide Pakistan's opponents in the best-of-three final. Pakistan qualified for the final on Saturday after an unbroken third wicket partnership of 136 between Ijaz Ahmed and Salim Malikhelped them to an eight-wicket win over South Africa.



Vine withers as Eurosport takes to the slopes



MATTHEW BOND

TV ACTION REPLAY

Time was when the most a British skiing enthusiast could look forward to was a good Sunday lunch, a brisk wintry walk and then back for tea in the company of David Vine and *Ski Sunday*. Bah-da-da-dum began the BBC's second best known sporting theme tune (Fleetwood Mac still hold pole position), and we were off, happily dreaming of the day when our own skis came out of the attic and on to the piste.

As I say, time was. Vine is still the voice of skiing and it should have fallen to him to finally declare the much delayed 1994-95 season officially open. But while his words were right — "At last, what we've been waiting for: the blue skies, the sunshine and, more importantly, a men's downhill race." — his timing was badly out. For by the time a disorientated-sounding Vine (well, you try being the voice of skiing and the voice of show jumping in the same week) introduced a miserly 15 minutes of highlights on *Grandstand* on Saturday, Eurosport had given us live coverage of both downhills from Val d'Isère, the best part of five hours of live television.

So it was Nick Fellows, the former British downhill champion and Eurosport's lead alpine skiing commentator, who got the season under way, in similar vein to Vine, but on Friday. There couldn't be a better day for alpine ski racing, he assured us: "Blue skies, sunshine and a very, very hard, fast and demanding downhill track." There were also (both for Eurosport and later the BBC) some superb pictures and sound provided by the host broadcaster, Canal Plus, particularly of the OK piste's notorious compression and its brand new, and much improved, high start.

Fellows is from the high-speed, high-volume school of commentary, with all the stresses — and the occasional word — in unexpected places. But in terms of briefing and his knowledge of the state of his chosen sport, he is first-class.

Occasionally, his enthusiasm threatens to get the better of him. During live coverage of the floodlit slalom (a welcome innovation for this season) from Sestriere, Italy, on Monday night, one half wondered whether he would finish the complete family history of Marc Girardelli in time to notice that Luxembourg's finest was almost three seconds adrift after the first run.

Where he succeeds is getting the big, English-speaking skiers in the commentary box, such as Ed Podivinsky and Cary Mullen, of Canada, Tommy Moe, of the United States, and Atle Skaardal, of Norway. Through them one gets this fast-changing sport as it is now, not as it was. Whether Fellows needs to sound quite so grateful for their insights is another matter.

Back at the BBC, the corporation seems unsure whether skiing is a sport at all. Certainly the latest fine tuning of *Ski Sunday* seems intent on turning the venerable sporting institution into more of a magazine format, aimed unashamedly at the recreational skier. Its traditional race coverage has been extended to include snow reports, a relaxed discussion of techniques with the amiable Julian Tutt and, presumably in search of a younger audience, freestyle events.

It seems a sensible move and would be all the more so if *Ski Sunday* had the time that other successful magazine programmes enjoy, such as the 75 minutes of *Blitz* and the hour of *Gazzetta Football Italia*. The fact that they manage to pack so much into a still highly enjoyable 35 minutes is a tribute to the skill of the editors.

Certainly, *Ski Sunday* still has the technical edge on the newest arrival to televised skiing, Carlton's *World Cup Ski Extra*. Apart from some rather amateur and brief highlights of World Cup events, the programme is hampered by going out on a Thursday night, four days after its BBC rival has caught up with the weekend events and almost a week after Eurosport has shown them live. Having Konrad Bartelski, still probably Britain's best-known skier, on site to examine the snow and course conditions is a good idea. But by Thursday night it is history.

Kelly bows out with home-town triumph

SEAN KELLY'S 18-year career as one of the world's most successful cycling professionals ended on the quiet, second-class roads of his home town, Carrick on Suir, (Peter Bryan writes). The Irishman, 38, succeeded in closing his long dominance of road racing with victory in the annual 50-mile Christmas Hamper event. It was a race that he had tried and failed to win on his professional debut in 1976.

The event drew the biggest entry known in European cycle sport as more than 1,200 riders lined up for the start, including three former Tour de France winners, Stephen Roche, Laurent Fignon and Eddy Merckx. Kelly closed the gap on a breakaway pair near the end and then, in the final 100 yards, sprinted clear to win with a length in hand. "I've stopped racing as of now," he said afterwards.

Fife fly into gap

ICE HOCKEY: With Nottingham Panthers idle, Fife Flyers narrowed the gap in the premier division, registering a resounding 11-1 win over Peterborough Pirates with their leading scorer, Mark Morrison, taking part in seven of the goals (Norman de Mesquita writes).

Humberside Hawks and Cardiff Devils each scored 16 goals, against Milton Keynes Kings and Edinburgh Racers repectively. Telford Tigers lost for the second successive time, beaten 8-7 at home by Medway Bears, while Slough Jets remained favourites for the first division title with a hard-earned win over Trafford Metros.

Britain strike silver



BOBSLEIGHING: Mark Tout, right, led the British No 1 four-man team to a silver medal in the European championships at Altenberg, Germany, yesterday. The German first and second teams took the gold and bronze medals. Tout's team was made up of Dean Ward, Courtney Rumbolt and Lenny Paul. He is now lying sixth in the World Cup standings.

Bryan stopped in tenth

BOXING: Delroy Bryan, of Britain, failed in a valiant attempt to capture the vacant European welterweight title in Córdoba on Saturday. The referee stopped a 12-round bout in the tenth and gave the contest to José Luis Navarro, of Spain, after Bryan had taken two mandatory counts. The first four rounds were even, with Bryan opening up a cut in Navarro's right cheek in the fourth.

49ers revel at home

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Steve Young completed three touchdown passes to lead the San Francisco 49ers past the Denver Broncos 42-19 in the National Football League on Saturday. The 49ers earned home-field advantage throughout the play-offs, which start in two weeks. Barry Sanders rushed for 110 yards and two touchdowns to help the Detroit Lions to a 41-19 victory over the Minnesota Vikings.

Tasmania set the pace

CRICKET: Rod Tucker and Shaun Young shared an unbeaten sixth-wicket partnership of 135 runs in 103 minutes yesterday as Tasmania moved into a strong position on the first day of the three-day match against Zimbabwe. Tasmania declared an hour before the close of play at 257 for five. Tucker finished on 78 not out with Young unbeaten on 41. Zimbabwe were 30 without loss.

Gatien beats arch-rival



TABLE TENNIS: Jean-Phillippe Gatien, the world champion, right, won his battle with the world No 1, Jean-Michel Saive, to claim victory in the World Cup final in Taipei yesterday. The Frenchman, 25, beat the Belgian 17-21, 15-21, 21-18, 26-24, 21-19 in a tense contest. Gatien had defeated Jan-Ove Waldner, a Swedish former world champion, in the semi-finals.

Jones takes the plunge

GLIDING: Steve Jones, the British junior champion, crashed during an orientation flight in New Zealand, where he is practising for the world championships next month. Jones, part of the seven-strong national team, was uninjured but is struggling to locate either a replacement sailplane or new wing for his glider.

Woman dismisses Lara

CRICKET: Brian Lara, the supreme batsman, was dismissed by a woman bowler during a charity match in Sydney. The West Indies and Warwickshire player, who this year set the world record of 375 for the highest Test innings, was caught behind by the wicketkeeper off the bowling of the Australia international, Zoe Goss, for 23.

Victorious Hendry on 50 and Davis is in sight

FROM PHIL YATES IN ANTWERP

BY beating John Parrott 9-3 in the final of the European Open on Saturday, Stephen Hendry captured the fiftieth title of his professional snooker career and won his 21st world ranking tournament.

Although Steve Davis still heads the list in both categories, those targets are now in Hendry's sights, even though Davis turned professional seven years earlier, in 1978. Davis has won a total of 69 events, 27 with ranking points.

"Over the years Steve has established the marks that I am aiming for," Hendry said. "It's one of my biggest ambitions to overtake him, although my main goal is to remain as the world No 1 until the end of the century.

"My fiftieth title is a personal landmark and it means I've ended 1994 on a real high. I was so confident, and cueing so well, that I didn't think I was going to miss."

After he compiled a record 12 century breaks during his successful United Kingdom championship in Preston last month, Hendry had a hard act to follow against Parrott.



Hendry: ambitious

Hendry was fortunate to win the first frame. Parrott led 48-1 when his poor safety let Hendry in. The world champion made seven before enjoying an outrageous fluke on a black and went on to fashion a 74 clearance.

Further runs of 100, 73, 82 and a superb 136 total clearance — which qualified him for the event's £2,400 highest-break prize — helped Hendry to build a virtually unassailable 6-1 lead in the first session.

Hendry opened the evening's play with a 78 break and, after Parrott had restored a measure of respectability by winning the next two frames for 3-7, Hendry added breaks of 101 and 92 to collect the £60,000 winner's cheque.

Parrott, consoled with £32,000, said: "There's nothing you can do if he makes 80 or 90 from every opportunity except sit there, wait for the next frame and just hope he starts to miss. He never did."

Dollar Girl's victory presents Briton with difficult choice

Skelton's double raises doubts

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

NICK SKELTON has given himself an enviable dilemma at the Olympia show jumping championships. Two spectacular wins — one, on Everest Showtime, in the Modern Security Systems Snowman Stakes on Saturday and the second, on Everest Dollar Girl, in the Christmas Cake Stakes yesterday afternoon — have left him undecided which horse to ride in the Grand Prix today.

"On Saturday night I told Sue Welch, the owner, I was definitely riding Showtime," Skelton said. "Now I'm not so sure." He had made the decision after Dollar Girl's eight faults in the Volvo World Cup qualifier on Saturday.

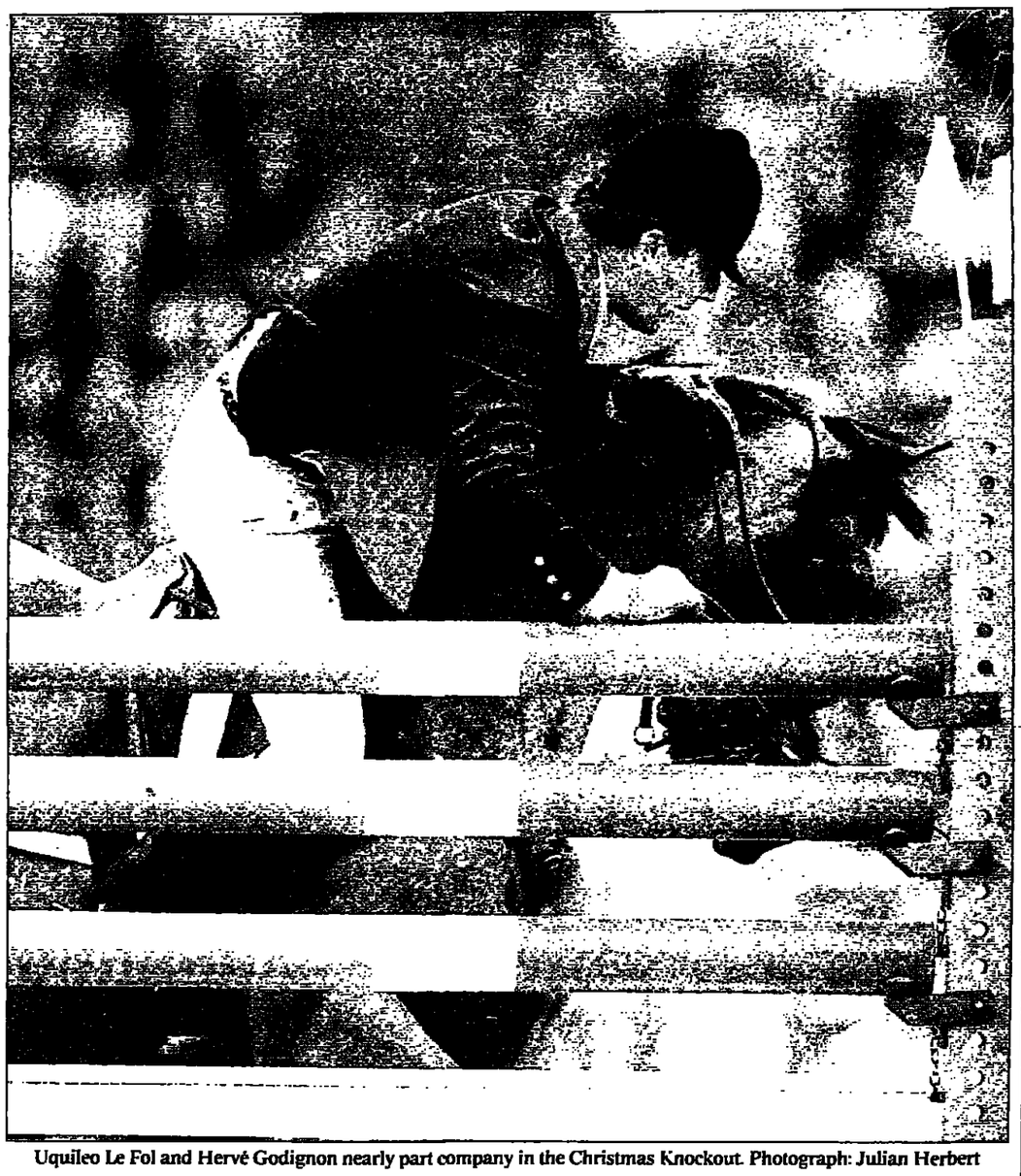
Dollar Girl promptly produced a breathtaking performance in the jump-off yesterday. "It's the best she's ever jumped," Skelton said afterwards, no small praise for a horse who lists the Calgary Grand Prix among her successes.

Eight horses reached the jump-off, in which Jan Tops, of Holland, the winner of the World Cup qualifier on Saturday, set the standard with a clear round in 32.46sec. Skelton, the next to go, took more than two seconds off his time.

Roger-Yves Bost, of France, on President Papillon, came close to dislodging Skelton but finished just outside his time. Ludger Beerbaum, the Olympic champion, from Germany, who has been in devastating form throughout the show, was up on Skelton's time but hit the last fence.

When Stefan Lauber, of Switzerland, did the same on Escado it was up to the last rider, the Briton, Geoff Billington, who had finished second to Skelton the previous night. Accompanied by deafening roars from the packed crowd, Billington put up a tremendous challenge on the eight-year-old, It's Otto, but came home in 31.74sec to take third place behind Bost.

Skelton's two wins provided a measure of consolation for the disappointing British showing in the World Cup qualifier, the richest, and usually most exciting, competition of the show. On this occasion, it proved more of a damp squib. Only four riders reached the jump-off — Beerbaum, Leslie McNaught-Mandli, of Switzerland, Alexandra Lederman, of France, and Tops.



Uquileo Le Fol and Hervé Godignon nearly part company in the Christmas Knockout. Photograph: Julian Herbert

None achieved a second clear round over Paul Duffy's shortened course. Tops, who was invited to the show only a week ago — after the world champion, Franke Sloothaak, pulled out — won the £20,000 car after achieving the fastest round on four faults with Sonora La Silla.

Michael Whitaker, the winner last year, disappointed his vociferous supporters when he incurred a quarter of a time fault after producing the only British clear round in the first round. "It wasn't even a tight time," Whitaker said mournfully afterwards. "In fact, the time allowed seemed so generous I wasn't even thinking about it." Nevertheless, his fifth place has put him in eighth in the European League for the World Cup, from which the top 19 qualify for the final in April.

His older brother, John, one of the favourites with his prolific grand prix winner, Everest Grannusch, also disappointed, with eight faults. "I think he just lost concentration over fence five and once you hit one it's easy to make another mistake," Whitaker said.

But there was compensation for him, too, yesterday when he and Everest Randi won the opening class, the Christmas Knockout, after a fierce tussle in the last round with Peter Eriksson, of Sweden, on Flyinge Electro.

Whitaker, who bought the ten-year-old stallion earlier this year and rates him "a potentially top grand prix horse", had downgraded him for the event yesterday, in which most riders rode their speed horses. "He's never been in a knockout before," Whitaker said, "but as Olympia is the last show of the season I decided to give it a go."

Results, page 30

Flawed timing takes edge off good time

BY DAVID POWELL

Four and a half hours in the company of horses may not be everyone's idea of an irresistible evening out, but with dogs and film stars, personalities from sport and television, late-night shopping and other amusements, the Olympia international show-jumping championships offer more than mere equestrian appeal. You can even take part in the Pushing and Shoving Interval Stakes, but I would not recommend it.

The title given to this five-day festival, which ends today, is inadequate, because it is as much Royal Tournament as mainstream sport. It is an agreeable blend of serious competition, pageantry, animal tricks, and clowning around. Even at an average of £80 to buy tickets for a family of four, it gives value for money.

I was fortunate to see an exciting triumph by Alison Bradley, the youngest rider of 38 in the Christmas Turkey Stakes. Bradley lost an eye two years ago after being kicked by a horse and here, on Endeavour, she won a 16-horse jump-off. Among those she defeated was Ludger Beerbaum, the Olympic champion. I do not ride but Bradley brought home to me the importance of it to those who do. As I watched her, I could not help but think that one more accident of the kind she suffered in 1992 would leave her blind. Good luck to her; her courage deserves it.

The Christmas Turkey Stakes was the first event after the interval, not that I saw the early riders, and here I must complain. The interval was scheduled to last 20 minutes, but the first five minutes were spent getting from my seat to ground level and the next ten waiting for my wife and daughter while they queued for toilets. Then, as we made for the food counters, we found ourselves in the Pushing and Shoving Interval Stakes.

The ground floor behind three sides of the arena has been made into a temporary shopping arcade for the duration of the championships. The corridor between the shops is narrow and the public can move down the full width in either direction. Result? Collisions, cursing, spilt tea and your ketchup on someone else's coat. Then you miss the start of the second half.

The Olympia nosebag provides value for money, not the usual big sports event rip-off. A pint of beer is less than £2, a sandwich just over £2. For variety, there are lasagne, muffins, baguettes, chocolate cake, and so on. The programme, at £3.50, is reasonably-priced and misses nothing by way of guiding you through the proceedings.

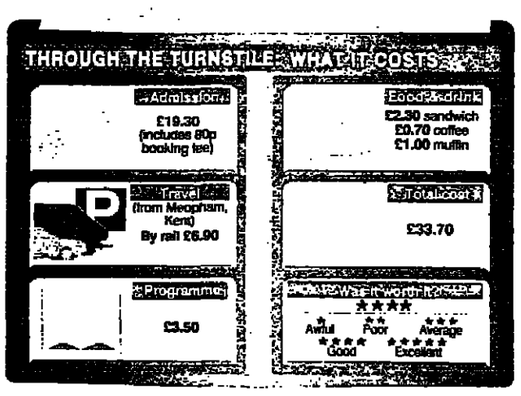
Upon entering Olympia, the smell of leather is striking; riding enthusiasts are indulged with every item of equipment and clothing imaginable, but non-participants do not feel left out. There is everything from slippers to teddy bears, jewellery to engraved glass. Sample joke: "Show jumpers never grow old, they just refuse more often". Most of the 151 shops seemed to be busy. There's no business like show jumping.

The commentary is informative and I was impressed that our man on the microphone should have picked the winner of the Christmas Mini Major Relay. This is a competition against the clock, one young rider and one senior international to each team, the adult going first, then the pony. "Ben Maher and Martin Lucas are 10-1 but better than that," our commentator told us. I should have taken the hint and placed a bet with the arena bookmaker (not dressed as Santa Claus). Maher and Lucas won.

By 11pm we had seen most household names from show jumping, German shepherd dog drills, horses jumping through hoops of fire, and Susan George and Tessa Sanderson in a charity relay. Which brings me to my second complaint, the late finish.

The closing event, the Christmas Finale, was scheduled for 10.30, in time, I had thought, to catch the last train home from Victoria. By 11.05, not only had the finale not started, but an additional attraction was to be squeezed in. "An extra item you won't want to miss," we were told. I may not want to, but I may have to.

Solving the dilemma, I stayed, resigning myself to the expense of a taxi. Others, though, made for the exit. They missed an emotional appearance in the arena of Everest Milton, now retired after winning more than a million pounds. At 11.15 the finale was introduced and more people left. "Now we have come to what you have all been waiting for," the announcer told us. He omitted to add, "except for those of you with trains to catch".



LACOSTE

THE LONDON MARATHON

Win a weekend in the Lake District

The Times, in association with the NutraSweet London Marathon, is offering two readers and their partners the opportunity to win free places on our exclusive training weekend in the Lake District on January 13-15.

To win, simply tell us who won the men's race in the first London Marathon.

Send your answers on a postcard, with your address and a daytime telephone number, to: The Times Marathon Competition, Ashentree Court, London EC4B 8NG to arrive no later than December 31. Normal Times newspaper competition rules apply.

Runners will find the training ideal preparation for the 1995 race on April 2. The weekend will be hosted by Chris Brasher, the founder of the London Marathon, and John Bryant, deputy editor of *The Times*.

As with the highly successful weekend in the New Forest in November, this will be aimed at people of all abilities, with the training runs carried out in several groups of differing standards.

The base will be the Skelwith Bridge Hotel, near Ambleside. Members of the local running club, Ambleside AC, will be guiding the separate groups and there will be a physiotherapist present to help with any injuries.

The weekend will begin with everyone meeting for dinner on the Friday evening and end after a buffet lunch on the Sunday. There will be time to ask questions about your own training and the marathon itself.

The cost of the weekend is £90, which includes your accommodation, all meals and transport within the Lake District. Apply by sending your name and address, a daytime telephone number, details of your running background and a cheque for £90 payable to London Marathon Ltd to: The NutraSweet London Marathon, Training Weekend, PO Box 1234, London SE1 8RZ.

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Faldo's finishing burst has no impact on relentless South African

Rock-solid Els sets benchmark for future

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE IN MONTEGO BAY

LEADING from the front is not as easy as it looks, Ernie Els had insisted on the eve of his final round at the Johnnie Walker world golf championship at the Tryall course here in Jamaica. It did not seem to tax him unduly, at least not half as much as the South African Inland Revenue will, after a cheque for $550,000 (about £366,000) reward for a six-stroke victory had brought Els's earnings close to $3 million for the year.

Nick Faldo, with five birdies in the last seven holes, confirmed his recovery to finish joint second, alongside Mark McCumber, of the United States, with two more Americans, Brad Faxon and Paul Azinger, and the Welshman, Ian Woosnam, tied on nine under par. All had realised early on the final morning that second was the best place on offer.

The only dangers to Els's inexorable rise to the top now are that he will start believing golf is an easy game, will start to buckle under the weight of superlatives heaped on him this year — though, as he has the build of a No 8 forward and the mental fortitude of the average prop, the prospect is highly unlikely — or that someone will play on his superstitions by making him use No 2 golf balls next year for the first time since he took a double bogey in his early days and refused to use that number again.

No, the uncomfortable truth for the Prices and the Faldos as they look back over the year and contemplate their challenge for the majors over the next 12 months is that the blond Afrikaaner looks as solid as the Vortrekker monument, no more susceptible to airs and graces in his approach to life than to throwing away strokes on the golf course.

He refused to be carried away by his year yesterday, nor drawn into extravagant predictions about the future. "Whatever happens, it has been a great year," he said simply. His victory, earned with two rounds of 64 on the opening two days and sensibly protected thereafter, might have strangled the competitive life out of a handsome field, but it has done nothing to dent the belief, expressed most forcibly by Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player, that the only thing Els now needs to be the next blond bombshell, after the Golden Bear and the great White Shark, is a nickname. As Els strode comfortably onward to victory yesterday, dropping just one shot and never letting the gap close to less than five strokes, the real tournament was going on behind him, with ten players all staking a reasonable claim to the $300,000 second place.

The most surprising of them was Paul Azinger, who had played a mere four tournaments during a year spent recovering from cancer treatment on his shoulder. The American Ryder Cup player had arrived, like Santa Claus, with a sack of toys for the local children, but with no realistic ambition of doubling his own money for the year. Victory would have been to play four rounds without pain.

A course record 62, which shot the American from three over par to six under in the third round, rather changed the perspective, reminding Azinger himself of just how good he could be, particularly with a putter in his hand. "It's good for you all to see I am back and capable of doing what I was able to do before," he said. And a little more, it would seem. His putter let him down once, on the final green when he missed a birdie putt for a 61 by a whisker.



Els, of South Africa, finds little difficulty in extricating himself from a tricky position close to a tree in Jamaica yesterday. Photographs: Ian Stewart



Nick Price sets himself for an iron shot to the green

FINAL ROUND SCORES: 268: E Els (SA) 64, 64, 71, 69. 274: M McCumber (US) 67, 70, 70, 67; N Faldo (GB) 67, 67, 73, 67. 275: B Faxon (US) 72, 70, 69, 64; P Azinger (US) 71, 74, 62, 68; I Woosnam (GB) 70, 68, 69, 68. 276: J Maggert (US) 68, 72, 70, 66; D Gilford (GB) 71, 64, 73, 68; B Langer (Ger) 70, 70, 68, 68. 277: R Allenby (Aus) 69, 71, 69, 68; C Montgomerie (GB) 67, 74, 67, 69. 278: T Lehman (US) 69, 65, 75, 69; N Price (Zim) 71, 67, 68, 72. 283: D Frost (SA) 70, 71, 74, 68; S Ballesteros (Sp) 73, 72, 65, 73. 285: T Kite (US) 71, 73, 68, 73. 286: J Huston (US) 73, 73, 70, 70; L Roberts (US) 68, 71, 76, 71; F Couples (US) 73, 65, 75, 73; C Parry (Aus) 72, 71, 69, 74. 291: L Mize (US) 70, 78, 74, 69. 292: V Singh (Fiji) 75, 75, 73, 69. 294: F Zoeller (US) 73, 74, 74, 73; C Mason (GB) 70, 74, 76, 74.

Faldo, who had followed his first two rounds of 67, with a plebeian 73, a worryingly similar pattern to Sun City two weeks ago, thought Azinger must have been cheating to score that well, albeit in ideal conditions. It was a Faldo joke, of course. Yesterday, Azinger had Ian Woosnam for company, not the inspirational Ballesteros, who had written a letter of support to Azinger when his illness had been diagnosed and lent him support during the record-breaking round on Saturday.

Fortunately for Azinger's continued convalescence, the Welshman's mood has improved steadily as three subpar rounds, notable for their solidity more than their spark, had forced him stealthily onto the leaderboard. Had Woosnam been under the black cloud with which he began the week, Azinger would have had to turn counsellor. A nervous start suggested that he was still pinching himself from the previous day.

On the first hole, his drive came to rest in the shade of a palm tree, his second was squirted out into the ditch at the front of the green and not even his magical putter could save par this time, though two birdies at the third and fourth restored the balance.

The Welshman also dropped a shot at the first, courtesy of a slack second shot; two birdies at the third and fifth, both par threes, settled him down. Azinger reached the turn in 34, one under par, Woosnam at level par for the day, and both continued to match strikes, finishing with 68s.

The day's streaker, there is always one, was the American, Brad Faxon, who began the final round two under par and ended it nine under after a round of 64. What Faxon would have given for a similar run — six birdies on the back nine — at Turnberry in high summer when he lead the Open, along with Fuzzy Zoeller, only to fade.

Faldo left his best till last, going out in 36 and seemingly disappearing out of contention, only to hit a rich seam of form on the closing holes to finish with a four-under-par round, his third score of 67 for the week. But for that errant 73 on Saturday, he could have brought a little pressure to bear on Els, who had three birdies and a rare bogey in a rock solid round of 69, 16 under par.

"I hung in there," Els said. "But the guys made it a little easier for me. Perhaps they were a little tired. What more can I say?" What indeed.

Souness denies £30,000 payment claims

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

GRAEME SOUNESS, the former Liverpool manager, last night denied allegations that he had received a £30,000 illegal transfer payment and said he would take legal action against the newspaper that made them.

Souness issued a statement through his solicitors refuting claims in *The Mail on Sunday* that he had collected the money from Pinchas Zehavi, a football agent, on a deal involving an overseas player in 1988 while he was manager of Rangers, the Scottish club. The statement read: "These allegations are completely untrue. Libel proceedings will be issued against that newspaper tomorrow."

However, some of Souness's 32 transfer deals while manager of Liverpool, whom he joined from Rangers in 1991, will be investigated by the Premier League commission of inquiry. Rick Parry, the Premier League chief executive, announced that 23 transfers of Scandinavian players to English clubs will be investigated, including the signings by Souness of Torben Piechnik and Stig Inge Bjornebye.

"Liverpool were on our list for a visit anyway," Parry said. Inland Revenue officials are believed to have taken documents relating to Souness's 33-month managership at Liverpool from Anfield after visiting the club two months ago.

Parry also responded yesterday to reports suggesting that George Graham, the Arsenal manager, had been found guilty of accepting a £285,000 "kickback" on the £1.5 million transfer of John Jensen from Brondby to Arsenal in 1992 when he attended an inquiry meeting last week. "It is absolute nonsense to say a verdict has already been brought in," Parry said. "This is baseless speculation."

Graham himself insists he has nothing to hide. "It was a very formal and hard-talking affair," Graham said. "But I believe this thing will go on and on." Indeed, this weekend *The Sunday Express* alleged that Kare Ingebrigtsen, signed by Manchester City for £550,000 from Rosenborg in 1993, received a £100,000 signing-on fee, a claim denied by City.

Howard Wilkinson, the chairman of the League Managers' Association, admitted to "wondering what the hell is happening" at the escalating wave of allegations.

"I don't know the exact truth of what is supposed to have happened. I never knew it [the game] was that mucky," he said. "I haven't a clue, and I was at Sheffield Wednesday when the bribes thing was on [in the 1960s]. The game survived it and it will survive what is being alleged today."

Rob Hughes, page 24

Record-breaking Davies finishes year on a high

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

LAURA DAVIES, the world's leading woman golfer, birdied four of the final six holes yesterday to win the Australian Ladies Masters championship at the Gold Coast, setting one record in the process and narrowly missing another. Davies had a six-under-par round of 67 in difficult, windy conditions for a four-round total of 272 and a four-stroke victory over Karrie Webb, 19, of Australia, who recorded a 69.

It was Davies's eighth tournament win of the year and the powerful Englishwoman became the first professional golfer, male or female, to win on five different tours in one calendar year. She has triumphed three times in the United States, twice in Europe, once in Japan and once in Thailand, on the Asian Tour.

Davies, 31, equalled the women's world record of 20-under-par for a 72-hole tournament. She shares it with two Americans, Nancy Lopez and Beth Daniel, and with Dale Reid, of Scotland. Her birdie putt at the last, which would have given her the record outright, slid wide.

"It's only numbers," Davies said. "My job was to win the tournament and I only thought about the record on the last hole. Someone will come along one day and beat it. But if I'd needed the putt to earn a play-off, then I'd have been upset."

Davies set a record 64 over the Royal Pines resort course in the opening round on Thursday and then dominated the tournament. Webb, a rookie professional, briefly led midway through the final round after four birdies on the outward nine, but Davies then regained the lead when she birdied the 14th hole.

"It was tough going out there," Davies said. "Karrie was tough on the front nine. I knew I had to make a few birdies or she was going to win." Davies, the leading money winner on this year's US LPGA Tour, won the tournament for the second successive year and earned a first prize of $28,500 (£19,000).



Davies: eighth victory

"To win anywhere is good, but to win on the five tours is great," she said. "I feel so relaxed down here in Australia that I can't help but enjoy myself. Today was one of the best tough-weather rounds I've ever had. The year exceeded my expectations by miles. It's been the sort of year you don't believe can happen. I had a lot of luck and I was able to cash in."

Davies birdied the 13th, 14th, 15th and 17th holes to end Webb's challenge, but the Australian dropped only one shot in her round and did not falter in her second tournament as a professional. Webb was overawed both by Davies's power and her finishing burst. "She just put her foot down and went away," Webb said. "Her drives were unbelievable. There is no way you can get anywhere near her."

☐ Mike Clayton's final round of 69, three under par, yesterday took him to a four-shot victory in the Coolum Classic tournament in Australia. Clayton finished with a total of 277, 11 under-par, ahead of Andre Stolz, a second-year professional.

Clayton sealed his win with birdies on the 14th and 16th greens. It was his second tournament victory of the year and his eighth overall. Jack O'Keefe, the American voted Australasian PGA Tour rookie of the year, had the best round of the day — a 67 — to finish third on 285.

Scores, page 30

Autissier is back on a record day

BY BARRY PICKTHALL

WHILE Isabelle Autissier was rejoining the BOC Challenge solo round-the-world yacht race yesterday after struggling to reach the Kerguelen Islands to rerig her dismasted *Ecureuil Poitou Charentes*, the race leader, Christoph Auguin was passing through Bass Strait on the final stage of the second leg, to Sydney, having set a 24 hour solo record of 350.9 miles.

This remarkable hourly average of 14.6 knots has swept the Frenchman's 60-foot Monohull, *Sceta Calberson*, to within 300 miles of the finish and beats the previous record by almost 25 miles.

Autissier, who lost her five-and-a-half-day lead when dismasted on December 2, set sail from the Kerguelens on Saturday after spending three days stepping a temporary rig. "I'm sailing again!" she said. "We worked non-stop and everyone has been wonderful."

The 13-metre-high mast, built originally for a cruising yacht, has been supplemented by a second mizzen mast made up from a spinnaker pole which allows her to carry 70 square metres of sail upwind and 150 square metres when reaching or running.

Another BOC drama ended when Neil Petersen, of South Africa, accepted a tow to Port Elizabeth 13 days after his Class 2 yacht, *Protect Our Sea Life*, was dismasted.

David Adams, the Australian Class 2 leader, proceeding within 900 miles of the finish, reported autopilot problems, which have let Giovanni Soldini's Italian entry, *Kodak*, to come within 85 miles.

☐ The America's Cup jury has cleared John Betrand's Australian challenge from breaking the two-new boat rule after rivals accused his One Australia team of selling its second boat to Syd Fischer's Sydney challenge.

Positions, page 30

Von Gruenigen closes as Tomba suffers

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE Swiss skier, Michael Von Gruenigen, displayed the best form of his life to win the men's World Cup giant slalom in Val d'Isère yesterday. He followed a near-perfect first leg with a confident second run to secure the second World Cup victory of his career in a combined time of 2min 25.09sec.

Kjetil Andre Aamodt, of Norway, pushed the Swiss all the way, however, finishing less than second behind Guenther Mader, the Austrian, completed the day in third place.

Von Gruenigen, who was second in the inaugural giant slalom of the season earlier this month in nearby Tignes, now lies second in the World Cup overall standings, one point behind Alberto Tomba, of Italy. Tomba, the triple Olympic champion, who has 250 points to von Gruenigen's 249, clocked the ninth fastest time in the morning session but decided not to start the second leg because of a damaged rib.

Tomba, 27, sustained the injury during the warm-up before winning the giant slalom in Sestriere last Monday, giving him victory in both his slamom races this season.

"The rib hurts too much," Tomba said. "It's all right in the slaloms but it's terrible in the giants." Despite his injury, Tomba drove straight to Lech, in Austria, where the next World Cup event is to take place tomorrow.

Von Gruenigen scored his only previous win in a giant slalom last year. Yesterday, it became a nail-biting finish for the Swiss, however, as Aamodt applied pressure with two good runs and showed he was still a force to be reckoned with, despite knee problems that hampered his early season and may need treatment.



Von Gruenigen: best form

Despite the injury, Aamodt, who insists he will win a race in each discipline this season, kept his World Cup chances alive. He stands on 213 points, just 37 behind Tomba.

His third place also crowned a perfect weekend for Mader, who confirmed his all-round talent. With 220 points, he is also one of the main contenders in the overall standings.

Though still way behind his usual performances, Marc Girardelli, of Luxembourg, also hinted he may be back on the right track, taking thirteenth place, two and a half seconds behind Von Gruenigen. The real disappointment of the day came from Achim Vogt, of Liechtenstein, the surprise winner of the season's opening giant slalom in Tignes. A disastrous morning run ruined his hopes, leaving him in 23rd place, but he fought back bravely in the afternoon to finish eleventh.

On Saturday, at the same resort, Armin Assinger, 30, lead an Austrian clean-sweep of the downhill. Assinger, who says he will almost certainly retire at the end of the season, clocked 1min 56.07sec to take victory from his team-mates, Patrick Ortlieb (1:56.46) and the 20-year-old Josef Strobl (1:56.49). Mader underlined the Austrian strength by finishing fourth.

Assinger put his victory down to studying the video of his run in Friday's opening downhill. "I was very disappointed with my showing — I was determined to be more relaxed today to concentrate and be aggresive," he said.

But the sensation of Friday was Strobl, the first skier in World Cup history to win the first downhill he had raced. "I made a couple of mistakes but I am really delighted with the result," he said.

The last time Austria showed such dominance in the downhill was 21 years ago at St Moritz.

Results, page 30

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Lech	15	80	good	varied	fair	sun	-4	14/12
Open pistes skiing well, cold and crisp								
Obergurgl	10	25	fair	varied	closed	fine	-3	14/12
Good skiing available, some worn/bare patches								
St Anton	5	70	good	varied	closed	sun	-5	14/12
Good skiing on open runs, much colder weather								
FRANCE								
Les Arcs	10	50	fair	varied	closed	sun	-3	9/12
More lifts and pistes open, good skiing above 2,200m								
Méribel	0	50	hard	varied	closed	fine	-5	9/12
Colder weather allowing snow machines to work								
Hevalier 0	0 closed		closed		closed	fine	3	n/a
Snow forecast today, no skiing at the moment								
Tignes	25	95	good	crust	art	sun	-9	10/12
Best skiing on glacier, lower runs icy/worn								
Val d'Isère	20	120	hard	crust	icy	fine	-1	10/12
Good skiing on hard pistes, rocks on steep slopes								
Val Thorens	10	50	fair	varied	art	sun	-8	9/12
Good skiing available, ten lifts open								
ITALY								
Cervinia	10	100	hard	varied	closed	fine	-4	9/12
Upper runs skiing well, Zermatt link open								
C'mayeur	0	70	fair	varied	closed	sun	2	9/12
Selva	0	10	hard	patchy	closed	sun	-4	n/a
SWITZERLAND								
Verbier	0	80	fair	varied	closed	fine	-2	9/12
Enjoyable skiing on pistes that are open								
Zermatt	5	95	fair	varied	closed	sun	-4	9/12
Best skiing on Klein Matterhorn								
UNITED STATES								
Mammoth	210	240	good	powder	good	sun	-2	15/12
Excellent skiing everywhere, deep snowcover								
Vail	75	95	good	powder	good	fair	-14	15/12
Excellent skiing, all lifts open								

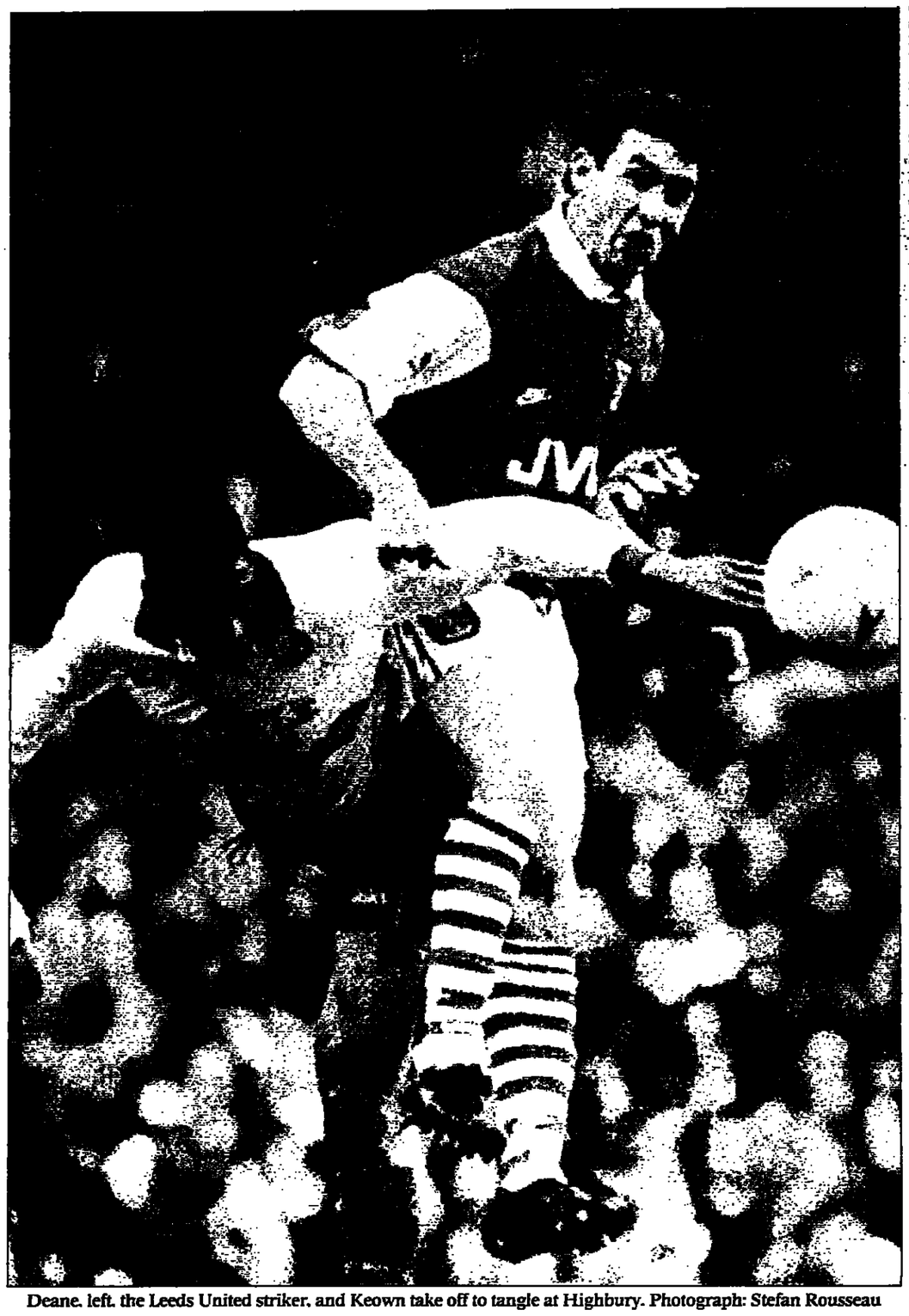
Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

Dulled supporters lost for words as Arsenal maintain official silence

Crisis and quality go by the bored at Highbury



Rob Hughes finds adventurism and anger in short supply as Leeds United grind out victory



Deane, left, the Leeds United striker, and Keown take off to tangle at Highbury. Photograph: Stefan Rousseau

The moral haze that hung outside the marble halls on a dank, cheerless December Saturday seemed to mock the essence and, indeed, the purpose of our sporting times. It seemed almost forgotten that Leeds United, visiting Arsenal and playing them at their own game — organised boredom — had inflicted the heaviest defeat by the Yorkshire club at Highbury for 29 years.

The 3-1 defeat, in any case, came after an age at which the score stood at 1-0 against Arsenal, until a last, mad five minutes, described by George Graham, the Arsenal manager, as a "comedy of errors". Comedy was lost on the supporters. Over 38,000 had turned up, shunned the Christmas shopping and packed, at prices up to £23 a seat, into a stadium in which neither side would display its finest talent.

Ian Wright, once again, was suspended, his indiscipline the ruin of his scoring instinct. Gary McAllister, the Leeds playmaker, had a better excuse: he was on duty for Scotland in Athens. Without him, Leeds abandoned all pretence at a passing game, selected two centre forwards, Deane and Whelan, on the flanks, and after their victory congratulated themselves on the destruction this amounted to.

The purpose of playing these men out of position was to prevent Dixon and Winterburn generating power down the wings: without that, the real condemnation of Graham's tenure at Arsenal is that they still have no semblance of a creative spark in midfield to find another. So, it was soulless, and outside, when it was over, two small groups of Arsenal dissidents vented their anger. Some of them had grouped outside the main entrance, chanting "Graham out" until they were dispersed by police.

A smaller group, a posse of shareholders and season ticket-holders, targeted the press entrance. "For heavens sake," one, clutching a briefcase, said, "help us get rid of this man ... If we can't do it with the destructive football he's brought to this club, then I hope you do it through exposing the other thing."

The other thing — the allegation that Graham took £285,000 for himself out of the transfer to Arsenal of that journeyman footballer, John Jensen. There has been, repeatedly, an attempt to distinguish between the receipt of this money as "an unsolicited gift" and the accusation that it was an outright inducement. I fail to see the difference, just as I failed to understand how 38,000 people can congregate, how so few of them can seem to bring to their throats words to discuss or describe this apparent betrayal of their trust, and how the club's official programme can insult their intelligence by mentioning not one word of the affair.

Compounding that, on giant screens in the corners of this splendidly refurbished stadium, Graham was interviewed before the match: yet again, not even a mention of the crisis, or of the Premier League commission investigating not only Graham's financial habits but also those of other clubs' managers.

After that there was football of utter denial. Arsenal have, not surprisingly, won only one Premiership match in eight. Leeds have been under pressure because, according to their manager, Howard Wilkinson, the quality of football they have attempted away from home has not brought results, "and you have got to accumulate points, it is as simple as that".

He admitted he had chosen his formation the Saturday before last, and was "very, very happy, delighted with the discipline, determination, character we showed". Asked whether, with McAllister restored, he might try to marry pragmatism with entertainment, Wilkinson mused: "They go toether in world-class teams, in very, very good teams. If you're not that good ..." He searched the ceiling in vain for words that never came.



Graham: defiant

What had come, on this turgid afternoon, was the apparent justification of Wilkinson's reversion to Graham's characterless footballing. Phil Masinga had scored the first two goals, both born out of his perseverance, his loping, largely spontaneous style bred in South Africa. But Graham blamed Vince Bartram, his reserve goalkeeper. "It's part of the learning process, young lads come in, they make mistakes," he muttered. Young lads? Bartram is 26, he has been around for nine seasons, and was the best goalkeeper Graham could buy for a club in so much profit that he admits his directors are begging him to spend on more players rather than turn over the excess to the Inland Revenue.

But spending, Graham has always insisted, has to be considered; presumably as considered as the £2 million which he (or rather Arsenal) gave to Everton for Martin Keown. In such a wretched game as this it might seem unfair to single out the technical poverty of one performance, yet Keown's capacity for lashing the poor football into the second tier of the stands, his hopeless shot that hit a corner flag, and his incapable defending in front of Bartram, could itself have been interpreted as a misappropriation of Arsenal funds.

So could the fact that, when Smith was withdrawn with a hamstring problem, the manager who prides himself on his schooling of Arsenal apprentices had nobody to bring on but Mark Flatts, a jockey of a winger at 5ft 6in. Nevertheless, insanely, Arsenal continued to direct the only thrust of their attacks to the head. So, they lost, and were not saved even by the late headed goal of Linighan, a centre half brought on as a makeshift centre forward.

Nonetheless, Graham looks the press square in the eye, reminding it of the silverware in the trophy cabinet. Being predators, journalists would rather ask what is going on behind the scenes, with money which, ultimately, comes from the supporters. Graham reiterates only that he, and his club, have been co-operative with the commission, and that the inquiry is not into Arsenal alone. Wilkinson, donning his hat as chairman of the League Managers' Association, said he "cannot have a view on anything that is not proven".

The game will survive, but besmirched. Away from the Arsenal stadium, but only by a ten-minute walk, one passes at Finsbury Park the bright lights of "Arsenal World Sport", the shop where, given goodwill, the praying of the act of faith that is a football habit from the cradle to the grave, they are selling over 100 items of endorsed Arsenal merchandise. The cover on the brochure is adorned by the face of Graham, and the Cup Winners' Cup.

ARSENAL (4-4-2): V Bartram — L Dixon, M Keown, S Bould, N Winterburn — R Parlour, J Jensen (sub: A Linighan, 80min), S Morrow, S Schwarz — A Smith(sub: M Flatts, 31), K Campbell
LEEDS UNITED (4-5-1): J Lukic — G Kelly, J Pemberton, D Wetherall, A Dorigo — N Whelan (sub: D White, 68), C Palmer, L Radebe, G Speed, S Deane — P Masinga.
Referee: G Poll

United stroll takes detour in the depths of new Forest

Manchester United 1
Nottingham Forest 2

BY PETER BALL

EVEN in his declining years, Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest had a fine record at Old Trafford. On Saturday, Frank Clark's side maintained the tradition, ending Manchester United's record of not conceding an FA Carling Premiership goal at home since April to claim a notable victory.

There was more than the result linking the old Forest and the new. Breaking with menacing pace and defending as if their lives depended on it, Clark's team looked like Clough's Forest from the good days. Stan Collymore, for one, would have fitted into a Clough team as comfortably as Ryan Giggs into a pair of Reeboks.

Collymore was making his first appearance at Old Trafford and, like Eric Cantona, he took to the great stage as if to the manner born. "Coming here for the first time was just brilliant," Collymore said. "When you walk out into that atmosphere, if you don't fancy it, you shouldn't be playing."

Collymore clearly did fancy it. He might have scored after two minutes, Ince making a fine saving tackle; he had the ball in the net after 20, a strike disallowed for wrestling down Ince — who else? — and finally got one that counted after 35, an effort to match the moment. Receiving the ball from Roy, he cut inside, wrong-footing Pallister to give him the opening he needed, and a fierce, dipping 25-yard shot left Walsh helpless.

"Who needs Cantona when we've got Collymore?" the Forest supporters chanted. But for how much longer will they have him? Clark insisted that he is under no pressure to sell, but added: "Every player has his price."

Alex Ferguson, the United manager, admired the goal and has long admired the player. United's experience of high-priced forwards bought from Forest is not a happy one, the examples of Birtles and Davenport, who both played outstandingly in Forest wins at Old Trafford, providing a cautionary tale. Collymore, though, looked every inch a United player — indeed, rather more than some of their own players did.

Giggs had a quiet return until he was substituted. After hitting the bar with a splendid volley after four minutes, Hughes relapsed into sullen acquiescence, looking as if he was still in mourning for Wales. Only Keane, who had an excellent game against his old club, Cantona and Ince carried the fight to the opposition with any conviction.

Ferguson, too, came out fighting. "All good things come to an end, they say, but I wish it was to somebody that played attractive football," he said. "I've never seen such a boring game in my life." His listeners laughed, assuming he was joking. It turned out he wasn't. "Fouls after fouls and wasting time. That's one way of stopping us."

Over the top, perhaps, but Forest at times more than met fire with fire. Pearce was well, Pearce, but the England defender of five years ago: abrasive, unloveable, leading from the front, teeth gritted and fist clenched.

There were too many fouls, with six of the eight bookings going to Forest. Clark did not dispute that balance, and an unpleasant undercurrent ran through the match. Perhaps it began when Pearce and Ince had a confrontation after Ince was knocked over and got up claiming a penalty. Ince reacted angrily to Pearce's comments and it took Cantona, in histrionic mood all afternoon, to separate them in his unlikely role as peacemaker.

Ince refused to comment but Ferguson was more forthcoming. "I think there were a few racist remarks today, which is sad," he said. "That was what Ince got upset about."



Collymore: outstanding

The peace did not last. Soon after the interval Pearce, having intimidated Kanchelskis into anonymity with a clash off the ball, went forward to score a second goal with the help of a huge deflection which probably told United it was not to be their day.

Yet nothing became United like their response to that setback. The game, which had been simmering, now came dramatically to the boil in more ways than one. Ince ran 30 yards to confront Roy after a late tackle, while across the pitch Giggs and Lytle exchanged blows, bringing half a dozen players to join in.

A more appropriate response saw Cantona glance Giggs's corner past Crossley, but although United laid siege to the Forest goal, Pearce and his defenders held out.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): G Walsh — R Keane, S Bruce, G Pallister, D Irwin — A Kanchelskis (sub: G Neville, 83min), B McClair, P Ince, R Giggs (sub: N Butt, 74) — E Cantona, R Hughes.
NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2): M Crossley — D Lyttle, A Hyseland, S Chettle, S Pearce — S Stone, D Phillips, S Gemmill, I Woan — S Collymore, B Roy. (sub: L Bohinen, 84).
Referee: K Burge.

McGhee makes his point

Leicester City 0
Blackburn Rovers 0

BY PAT GIBSON

AT THE end of the day, Kenny Dalglish was saying, "a point was more valuable to Blackburn Rovers in their commanding position at the top of the Premiership than it was to Leicester City in their desperate situation next to the bottom". At the end of the day, his almost smug satisfaction told you much about what is wrong with English football.

Having spent the best part of £30 million on players, the Blackburn manager might be well advised to make a bid for Einstein's eyes, which are apparently on the market for a tenth of that sum. They might change his theory about the relative merits of the two sides' performances.

Mark McGhee, the new Leicester manager, did not need to be an Einstein to know that Shearer and Sutton had scored 29 of Blackburn's 41 goals this season and that, by the simple expedient of stopping them from scoring, he might give his team its first clean sheet in 19 matches.

That is not to decry Leicester, whose performance in ending Blackburn's run of seven successive victories was everything you would have expected from a side that is only too well aware that he has money available to buy new players and intends to spend some of it in the six shopping days before Christmas.

It does, however, ask serious questions about Blackburn, who have in it their hands to be England's standard-bearers in Europe next season. Their first venture abroad this year brought humiliation against Scandinavian part-timers and they seem to have learnt little from the experience of playing against opponents who work hard to get men behind the ball.

Blackburn were without Hendry, who was away with Scotland, Warhurst and the more long-term injured, Batty, Gallacher and Marker, but they should have been able to create more than two chances for Sutton — one well saved by Poole, the other ballooned over the bar — and one for Shearer, which was driven too high.

It was not that Leicester did anything out of the ordinary. McGhee had only two days to work with his players following his move from Reading and he just concentrated on nullifying the threat from Shearer and Sutton.

To that extent, he was pleased with his initial impact, explaining: "The great thing about that was that it will help the players to believe in what I am saying. I hope they all go home thinking 'here's a guy who knows what he is talking about — he's asked us to do something, we've done it and it's worked'. That should give them the confidence and willingness to go on working as I start to develop the way I want us to play."



McGhee: satisfied

There were signs of what McGhee wants in the way Leicester tried to play the ball out of defence but that was so alien to some of his players that teaching them to pass the ball will be his next priority. That and a couple of new signings which, at a guess, would be a wide player and a striker.

In setting Leicester the target of 44 points, which may still not be enough to save them with four teams going down this season, he had not budgeted for any from Blackburn and the next two games against Liverpool at home and Manchester United away either, but he said: "I am more optimistic now."

As for Blackburn, Dalglish, noting Manchester United's setback, said: "We started the match one point ahead; we finished it two points ahead and the goal difference has improved as well. It's been not a bad day for us." Maybe not in Premiership terms, but he should be looking further than that.

LEICESTER CITY (4-4-2): K Poole — S Grayson, C Hill, J Wills, M Whitlow — M Blake, M Draper, S Thompson, L Philpott — P Gee (sub: J Joachim, 68min), D Oldfield
BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — H Berg, I Pearce, T Gale, G Le Saux — S Ripley, T Sherwood, M Atkins, J Wilcox — A Shearer, C Sutton
Referee: P Don

Ward puts Palace on humbug alert

Crystal Palace 0
Norwich City 1

BY ALYSON RUDD

CRYSTAL Palace diaries were being sold for £1 on Saturday. Supporters were not impressed, grumbling that the club used to give them to supporters free. But then this Scrooge-like attitude extends to Palace's performances on the pitch.

So far this season they have scored just six FA Carling Premiership goals at Selhurst Park, and the mean streak continued on Saturday. Had there been any humbugs around, they would have been hurled onto the pitch in frustration.

The opening seven minutes were possibly the worst of any Premiership game this year. No move stretched to two passes, there was no commitment, no energy, and the players' heads drooped as if they were ashamed they were not helping out with the Christmas shopping. But slowly the teams stirred to give a fourth-rate impersonation of a top-class fixture.

There was the odd pantomine routine to enliven the afternoon. A patient, intelligent build-up by Palace ended with Ricky Newman, who kicked the ball out while under no pressure. Then Norwich had a free kick that was too clever and left Bradshaw running and failing to connect with Crook's cross-field layoff.

It was odd, then, that the match was decided by a splendid goal. Eadie scampered through the centre, released Robins, who slid the ball across the face of the goal to Ward. It was Ward's third goal in just two games for his new club. John Deehan, the Norwich manager, may have pulled off the bargain of the season in signing him from Crewe Alexandra for £350,000.

Alan Smith, the Palace manager, was left pondering his team's lack of motivation. "We're a team that needs a cause to fight," he said ruefully, adding that the performance was virtually unrecognisable to those given at Anfield the previous Sunday and in the Coca-Cola Cup against Aston Villa.

A goalless draw against Liverpool must be jolly nice after the 6-1 drubbing they inflicted on Palace in their first game back in the Premiership, but it hardly merits an immediate video release, and Villa are waist-high in relegation territory.

Palace are taking their time to adjust to the Premiership, which ought to kill off any attitude problems. Proving they can hold their own among the elite ought to provide motivation enough.

CRYSTAL PALACE (4-4-2): N Martyn — J Humphrey, R Shaw (sub: D Pitcher, 19min), C Coleman, D Gordon — R Bowry (S Dyer 63), G Southgate, R Newman, J Salako — D Armstrong, A Preece
NORWICH CITY (4-4-2): B Gunn — C Bradshaw (sub: M Bowen, 15), J Newsome, J Polston, R Ullathorne — D Sutch, M Milligan, I Crook (sub: R Newman, 30), D Eadie — A Ward, M Robins.
Referee: R Hart

Keegan seeks no sympathy

Coventry City 0
Newcastle United 0

BY KEITH PIKE

A HIGH-QUALITY game this most certainly was not, more a reminder that, even in these heady days of FA Carling Premiership enlightenment, craft occasionally has to play second fiddle to graft. At Highfield Road on Saturday, the workhorses were first out of the stalls, and the thoroughbreds never caught up.

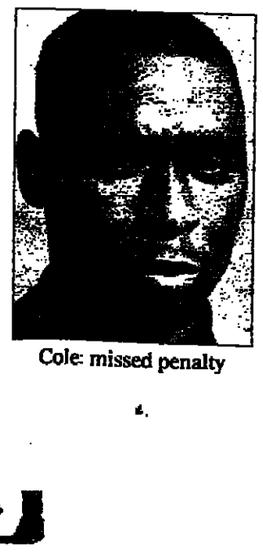
Yet, despite a frenetic, goalless and largely forgettable match, this was an afternoon to raise the feel-good factor. For Coventry it came in the form of an admirably positive and pugnacious performance, for Newcastle in the simple presence of Paul Bracewell. For football in general, too, this was a good news day.

Bracewell, having made the teamsheet, did not make the pitch, but he will bide his time patiently. Few players have survived the number of career-threatening injuries that he has, fewer still have had to endure the agony of a suspected cancer. Two months after having what was eventually diagnosed as a non-malignant tumour removed from his groin, and eight months after his last first-team appearance, Bracewell looked rightfully delighted just to take his place on the substitutes' bench.

Then there was Kevin Keegan. In a season dominated by admissions and allegations, and tarnished by transgressions and the erosion of trust, the Newcastle manager's honesty was a most welcome breath of fresh air. Would that all managers gave such realistic assessments of their team's performance.

The opportunity was there to seek pity — to bemoan an injury crisis that has now deepened with the loss of the hamstrung Beardsley for at least a month; to claim that, but for a late missed penalty by Andy Cole, his side would have made up even more ground on the two teams ahead of them in the table. Keegan did neither. He demands style and entertainment as much as he craves victory, and Newcastle had failed on all counts. The excuses were neatly sidestepped.

"I didn't think we played well enough to deserve anything but a draw, even though we missed a penalty," Keegan said. "We might have nicked it, but our goalkeeper had to make a couple of good saves as well. You struggled to see a good player out there, and as an overall display it was one of the poorest in my time with Newcastle."



Cole: missed penalty

Nor would he attach any blame to Cole, whose 82nd-minute spot kick after Pressley had impeded Kitson lacked the pace and precision to beat Ogrizovic. The Coventry goalkeeper capped an outstanding display of agility for a 37-year-old by getting down to his right to save. "Most of my players retreated when the penalty came," Keegan said. "At least Andy had the guts to go up and take it." The delay in finding a volunteer had been such that "I thought I would have to go on and take it at one stage".

Perhaps Peacock should have offered his services, for the much-maligned £2.7 million centre half had missed precious little in a confident, composed display. His only rivals for the man-of-the-match award were goalkeepers and fellow defenders, Busst in particular. It was that sort of game.

Coventry, meanwhile, continue to make progress pleasantly under Phil Neal. Like the majority of clubs in the Premiership, they may never have the resources to mount a serious challenge for the title, but while they continue to combine good habits on the pitch and good housekeeping off it, their future is assured. Dublin will soon be fit to give their attack the cutting edge that might have accounted for Newcastle. Do not write them off for the Cup.

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): S Ogrizovic — R Borrows, S Pressley, D Busst, S Morgan — C Jones, J Darby, P Cook, P Ndlovu — S Flynn, R Wegerle (sub: W Boland, 85min), NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2): P Smicek — M Hottiger, S Howey, D Peacock, J Beresford — R Fox, B Venison, P Beardsley (sub: L Clark, 57), S Watson — A Cole, P Kitson.
Referee: P Danson

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Scotland feel aggrieved after encountering spot of bother

Greece 1
Scotland 0

FROM KEVIN MCCARRA IN ATHENS

THE narrow margin of the result may suggest a close contest in this European championship qualifying tie at the Olympic Stadium here last night, but that is a grotesquely misleading impression. Scotland were well beaten, albeit by a disputed penalty.

Greece now lead group eight with a maximum 12 points. Scotland lag five points behind, and while much action remains in this group there was little indication in this game that Scotland have the finesse to claw back that deficit.

In recent times, Craig Brown's team have at least generated an impression of resilience, but in this context the true limitations of their defence were exposed. The home team was able to call on a dominant degree of invention whenever it required it.

Brown will be just as troubled by the plodding manner in which Scotland attempted to make a comeback in this game. There was a lack of technique about the high balls lifted with misguided optimism into the Greek defence. The team had hoped to avoid just such a ragged approach.

On an icy night, Scotland made the kind of cautious start that indicated a determination to keep their footing in every sense. AEK's slickness while knocking Rangers out of the European Cup had given Brown's team a marked respect for the standards of the opposition.

The fact that only three players from the Greek champions could win places in the national team only added to the apprehension.

Scotland were intent to confine themselves to simple passes that carried little risk, for giving possession away cheaply might have triggered the kind of onslaught with which AEK had assailed Rangers. The strategy looked effective, but dangers soon emerged.

GROUP EIGHT

RESULTS: Finland 0 Scotland 2, Faeroe Islands 1 Greece 5, Scotland 5 Faeroe Islands 1, Greece 4 Finland 0, Russia 4 San Marino 0, Scotland 1 Russia 1, Greece 2 San Marino 0, Finland 5 Faeroe Islands 0, Finland 4 San Marino 1, Greece 1 Scotland 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Greece	4	4	0	0	12	1	12
Scotland	4	2	1	1	8	3	7
Finland	4	2	0	2	8	7	6
Russia	2	1	1	0	5	1	4
San Marino	3	0	0	3	1	10	0
Faeroe Isl	3	0	0	3	2	15	0

FIXTURES: 1995: Mar 29: Russia v Scotland, San Marino v Finland Apr 26: San Marino v Scotland, Greece v Russia, Faeroe Islands v Finland May 6: Russia v Faeroe Islands. May 25: Faeroe Islands v San Marino Jun 7: Faeroe Islands v Scotland, San Marino v Russia. Jun 11: Finland v Greece Aug 16: Scotland v Greece, Finland v Russia Sept 6: Scotland v Finland, Faeroe Islands v Russia, San Marino v Greece. Oct 11: Russia v Greece, Faeroe Islands v San Marino Nov 15: Scotland v San Marino, Russia v Finland, Greece v Faeroe Islands.

There had been a faint warning in the ease with which the two forwards, Machlas and Alexandris, were able to steal a yard on their markers. As the defenders struggled to make up lost ground there was an occasional need for last-ditch tackles. Hendry rightly survived one early claim for a penalty when Machlas went crashing. The Greeks, however, were intent on testing the referee's willpower, and found it lacking after 18 minutes.

Tsalouchidis slid a fine through pass to Alexandris, and although Hendry's stretching challenge reached the ball before the forward keeled over, the referee awarded a penalty. Once the Scottish protests had subsided, the captain, Apostolakis, crashed the ball home.

This was the most exacting match Greece had played since the débâcle of their World Cup campaign in the summer, and an early goal was precisely the form of encouragement Brown's side had hoped to deny them. Scotland were forced to press forward with more abandon than they would have wished thereafter. They were hampered, too, by the absence of McStay, who had called off with a throat infection.

The visitors' response tended to be dogged rather than stylish, and bookings for McKinlay, McCall, McKimmie and Hendry were symptoms of a general discomfort. Even so, there were two first-half occasions when Scotland did reduce the Greeks to flustered defending. Atmatsidis was alert in diving to clutch Collins's free kick after 22 minutes, and then smothered Ferguson's header as Collins closed in.

Greece, though, possessed by far the greater capacity for flamboyance. The excellent Toursounidis continually made cunning forays from his position wide on the right. In the 35th minute he went past three men but lost his balance and pulled a shot wide. Six minutes from the interval, Machlas was through but met with a fine reflex save by Goram, who was later replaced by Leighton after suffering a hamstring injury.

GREECE (3-5-2): E Atmatsidis (AEK) — M Vlachos (AEK), T Zagorakis (PAOK), I Kalitzakis (Panathinaikos) — G Toursounidis (PAOK), E Apostolakis (Panathinaikos), N Nioplias (Panathinaikos; sub: T Karassavidis, Apolon, 87min), P Tsalouchidis (Olympiakos), M Kasapis (AEK) — N Machlas (OFI), A Alexandris (Olympiakos; sub: S Narangos, PAOK, 72).

SCOTLAND (4-1-3-2): A Goram (Rangers; sub: J Leighton, Hibernian, 78) — S McKimmie (Aberdeen), A McLaren (Rangers), G Hendry (Blackburn Rovers), T Boyd (Celtic) — S McCall (Rangers) — W McKinlay (Dundee United), G McAllister (Leeds United), J Collins (Celtic) — J McGinlay (Bolton Wanderers, sub: J Spencer, Chelsea, 46), D Ferguson (Everton).

Referee: J Blankenstein (Holland).

Brady frets as Brighton breeze nears storm force



Simon Barnes believes another managerial casualty looms after a 1-1 draw with Swansea City

Three classic signs of the beleaguered manager: they get a huge forward on loan, row with referees and get paranoid about the press. Meet Liam Brady, manager — just about — of Brighton and Hove Albion.

Brady is not a bad bet for the next one to go, even if Peter Shilton remains the choice of the thinking gambler. To be fair, Brighton have just put together an unbeaten run of two matches. I would have asked him if his side had turned the corner, but this was one of his now-famous "revolving door" press conferences. So maybe they have not.

The trouble is, this mighty run, beating Plymouth Argyle — Shilton's team — away last week and a 1-1 draw at home on Saturday to Swansea City (Plymouth were being beaten 7-0 to put the triumph in perspective) follows a run of 12 games without a win that included dismissal from the FA Cup by Kingstonian. On Saturday, Brighton fell behind in the third minute, to a crisply headed goal from Torpey. Brady then went through an afternoon of purgatory.

You can buy little houses that tell you the weather. A jolly girl comes out smiling on sunny days, a grumpy man comes out when it is stormy. At Brighton, the managers sit in similar little houses: Brady spent the afternoon popping out.

Stormy weather, all right. At one point the referee came over for a chat, and the two had what looked like a Shakoor Rana nose-to-nose discussion of the afternoon's events.

I wanted to go down and chat to him myself. Liam, you are not a bad person. Why punish yourself? You don't have to do this, you know.

Because the plain fact of the matter is that he does not. Brady is one of the new breed of manager who has earned a fortune as a player (four Italian clubs and all that), and, with it, the right to tell any chairman in the land to get lost.

Brady can be numbered with Keegan and Hoddle: men not doomed to the life of strife, but who embrace it of their own free will. They choose teams and tactics to please themselves, to fit their own beliefs and ambitions. They are managers without fear.

Try telling that to Brady, hag-ridden by defeat. His first job in management was Celtic, but the task of refloating the *Titanic* was beyond him. And so to Brighton, and much talk of the fluid passing game, football the way it should be played, and all that sort of thing. He was picked from 20 hotshot applicants, despite the trophy-free record with Celtic.

For Brady is one of those people who goes into management with colossal goodwill behind him. There is a kind of player, most especially of the "cultured midfielder" type, that enters management at high speed, with the world's best possible wishes.

These people — Ardiles, Hoddle, Wilkins, Brady — played with footballing intelligence, vision, and without overmuch ball-winning aggression. They were players one came to watch: Brady, a man for whom the phrase "educated left boot" seemed new-minted.

Such people are rushed into management in the belief that they will somehow produce a team of Hoddles or of Bradys, as if the things that characterised the men as players — ball skills, vision, moral courage — could somehow be taught. Football *should* be like that.

Instead, Brady has been locked into the closed circuit of defeat: you lose the next because you lost the last. He has acquired the muscular Akinbiyi on loan from Norwich City. On, then, into the four-games-in-eight-days period of Christmas in which seasons and managerial fates are decided. The circle of defeat has been broken, but his team is hardly strutting with confidence, any more than it is spraying immaculate left-footed passes about the place.



JAMES MORGAN

Cooper, the referee, and Brady, the Brighton manager, are unable to see eye to eye at the Goldstone Ground

Form, Graham Gooch once said, is a two-edged sword. In good times the runs cannot stop coming; in bad, the next big innings is as distant as Mars. This sounds, though in Gooch's case is not, a rather passive way of looking at things.

The point is that good players, good managers, can maintain the cycle of victory: can bust open the circuit of defeat.

Everybody has good and bad periods: it is in the knack of extending the one and cutting short the other that winners are to be found.

Take poor Nogan, whose destiny has run in tandem with Brady's this season. Leading Brighton's attack, he scored 12 times in the first 15 games: in the last 14, he has not scored at all.

Brady's side does not lack spirit. The team possesses it in the form of desperation. Of the several thousand chances that fell to them throughout the afternoon, Codner (his fifth in five games, see what I mean?) was the only man to find a finish.

"We were so desperate for the winning goal we lost our grip on the game," Brady said. He looked more like a stand-up comedian than a manager, the thin end of his tie flapping a foot below the fat, standing hunched and defensive in a way that made all his clothes look too big for him.

"I always doubted if I had the right personality to be a manager," Brady once said. Why do it, Liam? He may be financially independent of football, but spiritual independence is another matter entirely.

Oscar Wilde, another "cultured midfielder", would, though he never went into management himself, have summed Brady's situation up. There is only one thing worse than being a football manager, and that is *not* being a football manager.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE ALBION (4-3-1-2): N Rust — P Smith, S Tuck, P McCarthy, I Chapman — J Minton, S Myall, D Wilkins — R Codner — K Nogan (sub: J McDougald, 83min), A Akinbyi.

SWANSEA CITY (4-4-2): R Freestone — J Ford, M Besham, S Jenkins (sub: C Burns, 30), K Walker — D Penney, K Ampadu, S Chapple, J Bowen (sub: D Perrett, 13) — S Torpey, J Hodge.

Referee: K Cooper (Swindon).

Evans worried by Liverpool's growing lack of penetration

Chelsea 0
Liverpool 0

BY PAT GIBSON

IT WAS obvious that Glenn Hoddle, three weeks past his 37th birthday, was feeling the pace when he left the field after 75 minutes of his first match of the season. It could also have been that Chelsea's elegant player-manager had had enough of this frenetic match.

A few minutes earlier, Hoddle had seemed as bemused as the rest of us by how a contest involving some of the most creative players in the English game could be so barren when he engaged in a long touchline discussion with his assistant, Peter Shreeves, about how they were going to break the deadlock.

In the end, he called on Mark Stein, last season's top scorer who has been out of action for seven months with severe ankle problems. The diminutive South African striker never got into the game but he was not alone in that. And the rest had 70 minutes start on him.

TheLiverpool manager, Roy Evans, was brutally frank about it all. "There was no real quality in the game," he said. "It's frustrating from my point of view and I'm only concerned with the Liverpool side. I know we can do better than that.

"We had a fair amount of the play but never looked like scoring a goal. That's the way it's going for us at the moment. We haven't scored for a few games now — and it's a bit worrying."

Hoddle had a more novel explanation — the size of the Stamford Bridge pitch, which has been reduced by three yards all round because of the recent development. "It's now the minimum size in both length and width," he said, "and it's a problem we are going to have to redress."

The cramped working conditions could not, however, excuse the overall level of performance which Hoddle admitted was as much due to the tactics Chelsea employed as anything else.

"There was not that much cohesion to the game," he said. "They play a system that makes it very difficult if you don't close them down and we worked extremely hard at doing it. A lot of clubs base their game on that alone. That's never been my way but I thought we had to do it today."

The pattern was set in the first 25 minutes when tackles were flying in and no one dared to settle on the ball. The surprise was that only one player was booked — Sinclair, of Chelsea, for a late tackle on Barnes.

The game burst into life when Furlong fed Wise and his curling shot caught James going the wrong way. However, the goalkeeper stuck out his right hand and deflected the ball onto the base of a post.

A minute later Kharine in the Chelsea goal was at full stretch to keep out a measured shot from Walters. But that was just about the limit of the goalkeepers' exertions, such was the dominance of the two defences.

Chelsea only looked dangerous when Liverpool's three centre backs got in each other's way. Liverpool only threatened once in the second half when Barnes finished their best move of the match by leaving Fowler with only Kharine to beat. However, he stubbed his shot and the ball trickled harmlessly to the goalkeeper.

Chelsea had one more threatening moment when Furlong burst between Ruddock and Babb as they hesitated over whose ball it was, but James saved well to his right.

CHELSEA (4-4-2): D Kharine — E Newton, F Sinclair, E Johnsen, S Minto — D Rocastle (sub: M Stein, 71min), N Spackman, D Wise, G Hoddle (sub: A Barness, 76) — G Peacock, P Furlong.

LIVERPOOL (3-5-2): D James — J Scales, N Ruddock, P Babb — M Thomas, M Walters, J Redknapp, J Barnes, S Bjornebye — R Fowler, I Rush.

Referee: D Gallagher.

Photograph, page 26

Everton fail to reach passmark

Everton 0
Tottenham Hotspur 0

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

JOE ROYLE is loyal, frank, and, unusually for a Liverpudlian, funny. Gerry Francis, less waggish, is also uncowed. He proved that at Bristol Rovers and Queens Park Rangers. English football, corroded by managers, chairmen and administrators of little or no principle, has never had greater need of men of unblemished reputations.

Everton and Tottenham certainly need them, and appear to be reviving under their supervision. They are big clubs — at least they regard themselves as such — which expect to provide a lead, not bump along in someone's shadow. Neither man can have been comforted by the standard of play in this match. It was lamentable.

They whistled afterwards to keep their spirits up. Everton have now gone seven matches without conceding a goal, a club record. Tottenham, without Klinsmann and Dumitrescu, are unbeaten in five. Managers set great store by these things. Supporters are less impressed. Goodison Park was silent, as it often is.

"I realise we have to be more potent," Royle said. "We were never going to turn into a championship side overnight, and we are adjusting things slowly. Gerry has decided, as we have, that they must stop conceding goals." If there had truly been some notable defending, and eye-catching goalkeeping, it might still have been a decent match. There was nothing of the sort. Barlow forced an early save from Walker; Anderton hit a post late on from a free kick. The rest was banal. Not one player accomplished a pass that surprised, delighted or changed a thing.

Command of the ball is the grammar footballers must master. Here, sentences trailed off on the afternoon mist, and even words were only half formed. There were men out there earning £5,000 a week who could neither trap a ball, control it, or pass it more than five yards. In those circumstances, defending becomes less troublesome.

Tottenham, who can welcome their foreigners back to join Sheringham, Anderton, and Barmby, are better off. There is imagination there, and plenty of goals. Some days that will compensate for their defensive frailties. Some days it will not.

Everton's problems are more obvious. They were fortunate not to go down last season and remain short of class at full back, in midfield, and in attack. If Royle was being honest, he would admit that only Southall, Watson and Unsworth are of the necessary quality, and two of them are the wrong side of 30. As midfield players, neither Horne nor Parkinson, Ebbrell nor Hinchcliffe, set the pulse racing. These are mere journeymen who could just as easily bat third wicket down for Leicestershire.

Limpar, a second-half substitute, must be of greater use, if only in the short term. Rideout, at the age of 30, is one of those players who have got through the better part of his career without anyone noticing. Barlow, starting a match for the first time in 11 months, is promising, but then so are two dozen others. Will he kick on? He is no Fowler, that's for sure.

Francis, for his part, confessed to having no grand plans for Tottenham. "I have learnt not to make predictions or to set targets." He can have learnt nothing from this match.

EVERTON (4-4-2): N Southall — M Jackson, D Watson, D Unsworth, D Burrows — B Horne, J Parkinson (sub: A Limpar, 53min), J Ebbrell, A Hinchcliffe; P Rideout, S Barlow.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-3-3): I Walker — D Austin, C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, S Campbell — G Popescu, D Howells, R Rosenthal — D Anderton, E Sheringham, N Barmby.

Referee: K Cooper.

PREMIERSHIP

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Blackburn	19	43	+26	WWWWD
2	Manchester Utd	19	41	+22	WDWWL
3	Newcastle	19	38		
4	[illegible]	19	35		
5	Liverpool	19	33		
6	[illegible]	19	31		
7	[illegible]	19	30	+4	LWWWW
8	Chelsea	19	28	+3	DLWLD
9	Manchester City	19	28	-1	WWWLL
10	Tottenham	19	26	-2	DDWWD
11	[illegible]	19	24	+1	LDDWL
12	Coventry	19	23	-9	WWDLD
13	[illegible]	19	22	-6	WLWLW
14	[illegible]	19	22	-12	WLLWD
15	Southampton	19	22	-5	DWDLL
16	Crystal Palace	19	21	-5	LDLDL
17	[illegible]	19	21	-6	LLLDW
18	Sheffield Wed	19	21	-9	WDWLL
19	Everton	19	19	-9	WWWDD
20	Aston Villa	19	16	-8	LWDDD
21	Leicester	19	14	-14	WLDLD
22	Ipswich	19	12	-20	LDLLD

Weekly change: Up — Stayed the same — Down

Turkington on hand to tear up form book

THE assiduous compilers of the Vauxhall Conference's weekly bulletin publish a form table based on clubs' last six matches (Walter Gammie writes). It was bottom versus top at Cherrywood Road on Saturday.

And by law of perverse nature, bottom placed Farnborough Town — one point in six matches — duly brought Macclesfield Town — six wins as part of a record-breaking sequence of ten — down a peg or two with a 1-0 victory.

Macclesfield did little wrong. They moved the ball around with a well-grooved fluency that has swept them clear at the top of the Conference in a winning run that started with the 4-1 home thumping of Farnborough on October 1.

A match tally of 14 corners to Farnborough's two reflected the pressure they exerted down the flanks, but nothing fell their way in front of goal as the Farnborough defence, with Wayne Stemp outstanding, held sway.

Turkington's match-winner in the 65th minute stemmed from a flash of inspiration down the right wing by Richard Dobson.

Nicholl acts like Scrooge

Walsall 4
Hereford United 3

BY IVO TENNANT

EVEN at a time of year when largesse is freely distributed, a match comprising seven goals does not invigorate every manager who finishes on the winning side. In his days as a puritanical centre half, Chris Nicholl would not have cared for a scoreline that reflected poorly on defenders. Nothing has changed.

In the space of 11 minutes at the start of the second half, Nicholl's Walsall ran this rough-hewn contest by scoring three times. Somebody had the temerity to ask the manager what he thought of this burst. "All that burst were my brains" was his tart reply.

Nicholl had given Walsall, fifth in the third division, a burst of another kind at half-time, for they had been outplayed and outscored by a team at the other end of the table. "The boss gave us a right ear-bashing," Scott Houghton said. He deserved better, given that he had kept them in the match.

When seven goals are scored, defenders are inevitably at fault. Houghton put Walsall ahead through a surging run from 15 yards inside his own half, bringing off an excellent one-two move with Wilson in the process, but there was a distinct lack of marking when Cross and then James enabled Hereford to take the lead.

This did not last for long. Houghton, possessing the ability to reach the byline and deliver a teasing cross, created Lightbourne's first goal. His second was through another header, this from another long ball by Ntamark. By the time Ryder had given Walsall a seemingly unassailable 4-2 lead from Houghton's dipping corner, Smith, the Hereford centre half and a former Walsall captain, did not know where to look.

And yet Hereford could — should — still have won. They had at least four excellent chances before White, formerly of Swindon and their leading scorer, hooked in a volley in the penultimate minute. Wood, the Walsall goalkeeper, was man of a match that appealed to the pundits distinctly more than the professionals.

"It is still very hard for me to believe we won," Nicholl said.



White: late scorer

"For 90 minutes Hereford were better than us in just about every department." As a player and manager he belongs, or rather belonged, in the FA Carling Premiership. Nicholl still commutes to Bescot Stadium from his home in Southampton, a city and a level of the game with which you sense he still has a greater empathy.

The remarks he made were not throwaway lines: he thinks before he speaks, sometimes returning to the pitch to collect his thoughts before saying anything.

A decent run over the holiday period — Walsall play fourth-placed Barnet and third-placed Doncaster Rovers before taking on Leeds United in the third round of the FA Cup — will propel them towards promotion. There are better teams in their division, but not many.

WALSALL (4-4-2): T Wood — W Evans, S Ryder, C Palmer, C Gibson — C Marsh, M O'Connor, C Ntamark, S Houghton — K Lightbourne, K Wilson (sub: M Butler, 67min).

HEREFORD UNITED (4-4-2): T Pennock — A Llewelyn, D Smith, T James, K Lloyd — A Reece, R Wilkins, N Cross, N Lynn — S White, P Priedy.

Referee: N Barry.

☐ Ray McHale has been appointed manager of struggling Scarborough, in succession to Billy Ayre, who resigned after only four-and-a-half months in the post. McHale was in charge at Scarborough until April 1993, when he was dismissed by the then chairman, Geoffrey Richmond. McHale has been the manager of non-league Guiseley in recent months.

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

ARSENAL (0) 1 **LEEDS** (1) 3
Linighan 86 — Masinga 24, 85; Deane 88
38,098

Arsenal: V Bartram, L Dixon, N Winterburn, S Morrow, S Bould, M Keown, J Jensen (sub: A Linighan, 80min), K Campbell, A Smith (sub: M Flatts, 30), S Schwarz, R Parlour
Booked: Jensen.
Leeds United: J Lukic, G Kelly, D Wetherall, C Palmer, A Dorigo, J Pemberton, L Radebe, G Speed, P Masinga, B Deane, N Whelan (sub: C White, 68).
Booked: Kelly, Palmer, Radebe, Pemberton.
Referee: G Poll.

COVENTRY (0) 0 **NEWCASTLE** (0) 0
17,233

Coventry City: S Ogrizovic, B Borrows, S Morgan, S Pressley, D Busst, J Darby, P Cook, S Flynn, R Wegerle (sub: W Boland, 86min), P Ndlovu, C Jones.
Newcastle United: P Srnicek, J Beresford, M Hottiger, S Howey, D Peacock, B Venison, P Kitson, R Fox, P Beardsley (sub: L Clark, 56), A Cole, S Watson.
Booked: Beresford, Howey, Watson, Peacock.
Referee: P Danson.

C PALACE (0) 0 **NORWICH** (0) 1
12,252 — Ward 47

Crystal Palace: N Martyn, J Humphrey, D Gordon, G Southgate, C Coleman, C Armstrong, J Salako, R Shaw (sub: D Pitcher, 20min), R Bowry (sub: B Dyer, 62), A Preece, R Newman.
Norwich City: B Gunn, I Crook (sub: R Newman, 89), J Newsome, M Ward, M Milligan, M Robins, J Polston, D Sutch, C Bradshaw (sub: M Bowen, 16), R Ullathorne, D Eadie.
Booked: Crook, Newsome, Ward.
Referee: R Hart.

EVERTON (0) 0 **TOTTENHAM** (0) 0
32,809

Everton: N Southall, M Jackson, D Watson, D Unsworth, D Burrows, J Ebbrell, B Horne, J Parkinson (sub: A Limpar, 51min), A Hinchcliffe, P Rideout, S Barlow.
Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker, D Austin, S Campbell, G Popescu, C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, D Anderton, D Howells, N Barmby, R Rosenthal, E Sheringham.
Booked: Austin, Rosenthal.
Referee: K Cooper.

LEICESTER (0) 0 **BLACKBURN** (0) 0
20,559

Leicester City: K Poole, S Grayson, N Whitlow, C Hill, J Willis, M Blake, M Draper, S Thompson, L Philpott, P Gee (sub: J Joachim, 68min), D Oldfield.
Booked: Gee.
Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, A Gale, T Sherwood, G Le Saux, S Ripley, A Shearer, J Wilcox, C Sutton, H Berg, M Atkins, I Pearce.
Booked: Sherwood, Le Saux.
Referee: P Don.

MAN UTD (0) 1 **NOTTM FOR** (1) 2
Cantona 68 — Collymore 35; Pearce 62
43,744

Manchester United: G Walsh, R Keane, D Irwin, S Bruce, A Kanchelskis (sub: G Neville, 87min), G Pallister, E Cantona, P Ince, B McClair, M Hughes, R Giggs (N Butt 75).
Booked: Keane, Giggs.
Nottingham Forest: M Crossley, D Lyttle, S Pearce, A I Haaland, S Chettle, D Phillips, B Roy (sub: L Bohinen, 85min), S Gemmill, I Woan, S Collymore, S Stone.
Booked: Pearce, Lyttle, Chettle, Stone, Roy, Woan.
Referee: K Burge.

SHEFF WED (0) 0 **QPR** (0) 2
22,766 — Maddix 60; Ferdinand 84

Sheffield Wednesday: N Pressman, P Atherton (sub: D Petrescu, 69min), I Nolan, C Waddle, A Pearce, M Bright (sub: K Ingesson, 58), J Sheridan, D Walker, C Bart-Williams, G Hyde, R Jones.
Queens Park Rangers: S Dykstra, D Maddix, C Wilson, D Bardsley, A McDonald, S Hodge, S Barker, A Impey, L Ferdinand, K Gallen, T Sinclair (sub: I Holloway, 60).
Booked: Maddix, McDonald, Barker.
Referee: P Durkin.

WEST HAM (2) 3 **MAN CITY** (0) 0
Cottee 7, 10, 57 — 17,286

West Ham United: L Miklosko, T Breacker, A Martin, S Potts, J Dicks, M Holmes, I Bishop, M Rush, M Hughes, A Cottee, J Boere.
Booked: Dicks, Rush.
Manchester City: A Dibble, D Kerr (sub: M Vonk, 46min), A Kernaghan, I Brightwell, G Flitcroft, N Summerbee, C Lomas, D Brightwell (sub: J Foster, 85), P Walsh, N Quinn, U Rösler.
Booked: Kernaghan, D Brightwell.
Referee: T Holbrook.

Yesterday

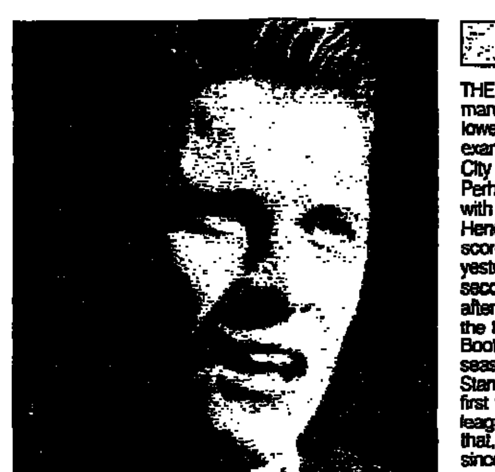
CHELSEA (0) 0 **LIVERPOOL** (0) 0
27,050

Chelsea: D Kharine, S Minto, E Johnsen, F Sinclair, P Furlong, G Peacock, D Wise, E Newton, G Hoddle (sub: A Barness, 77min), D Rocastle (sub: M Stein, 70), N Spackman.
Booked: Sinclair.
Liverpool: D James, J Scales, P Babb, N Ruddock, S I Bjornebye, M Walters, J Redknapp, M Thomas, J Barnes, I Rush, R Fowler.
Referee: D Gallagher.

Friday

IPSWICH (0) 2 **WIMBLEDON** (0) 2
Milton 7; Sedgley 83 — Holdsworth 2; Goodman 62
11,367

Ipswich Town: C Forrest, F Yallop, P Whelan, S Sedgley, A Vaughan, P Mason, G Williams, S Milton, C Thomsen, C Kiwomya, N Gregory (sub: A Paz, 70min).
Wimbledon: H Segers, A Kimble, S Fitzgerald, A Thorn, K Cunningham, W Barton, V Jones, O Leonhardsen (sub: G Elkins, 71), E Ekoku, D Holdsworth (sub: M Harford, 86), J Goodman.
Referee: D Elleray.



Tony Cottee: hat-trick for West Ham

GOALSCORERS

	Lge	FAC	CCC	Euro	Other	Total
* Ward (Norwich)	11	1	4	0	4	20
Shearer (Blackburn)	16	0	2	1	0	19
Wright (Arsenal)	10	0	3	5	0	18
Fowler (Liverpool)	15	0	2	0	0	17
Sutton (Blackburn)	13	0	3	1	0	17
Klinsmann (Tottenham)	11	0	4	0	0	15
Cole (Newcastle)	9	0	2	4	0	15
Le Tissier (S'hampton)	9	0	5	0	0	14
Ferdinand (QPR)	12	0	1	0	0	13
Kanchelskis (Man Utd)	10	0	0	1	0	11

* Includes 17 goals for Crewe Alexandra

LEAGUE MARKSMEN

THE approach of the halfway mark of the season has many FA Carling Premiership managers scanning the lower divisions for goalscorers. Ashley Ward, for example, has already scored three goals for Norwich City since his move from Crewe Alexandra last week. Perhaps Premiership clubs were too quick to dispense with John Aldridge, of Tranmere Rovers, and John Hendrie, of Middlesbrough: Aldridge tops the league scorers' chart with 17, while Hendrie's hat-trick yesterday moved him to 13 for the season. The second division, however, still looks the best bet, even after Ward's departure, supplying nine marksmen in the top 20. Paul Moody (Oxford United) and Andrew Booth (Huddersfield Town) are having their best seasons with 16 and 14 league goals respectively. Stan Collymore, the Nottingham Forest striker, was the first to breach the Manchester United defence in the league at Old Trafford this season on Saturday. Before that, United had not conceded a league goal at home since Easter Monday, some 1,135 minutes of football.

J Aldridge (Tranmere) 17 (21)
A Shearer (Blackburn) 16 (31)
P Moody (Oxford Utd) 16 (8)
R Fowler (Liverpool) 15 (12)
A Booth (Huddrsfld) 14 (10)
C Sutton (Blackburn) 13 (25)
J Hendrie (Mdlsbr) 13 (13)
P Jewell (Bradford) 13 (5)
L Ferdinand (QPR) 12 (16)
J-A Fjortoft (Swindon) 12 (12)
G Bennett (Wrexham) 12 (32)
J Klinsmann (Spurs) 11 (-)
A Ward (Norwich) 11 (13)
S McCarthy (Oldham) 11 (4)
D Whyte (Charlton) 11 (3)
S Goater (Rotherham) 11 (13)
P Stant (Cardiff) 11 (11)
T Ellis (Blackpool) 11 (26)
K Francis (Stockport) 11 (28)
R Taylor (Brentford) 11 (2)
D Freedman (Barnet) 11 (-)
D Reeves (Carlisle) 11 (11)
M Carter (Bury) 11 (20)
A Kanchelskis (Man U) 10 (6)
I Wright (Arsenal) 10 (23)
P Walsh (Man City) 10 (9)
J McGinlay (Bolton) 10 (25)
R Jepson (Huddrsfld) 10 (5)
C Corazzin (Camb U) 10 (10)
P Barnes (York) 10 (24)
S Wilkinson (Mansfld) 10 (10)
A Cole (Newcastle) 9 (34)
M Le Tissier (Soton) 9 (25)
P Gray (Sunderland) 9 (14)
C Malkin (Tranmere) 9 (8)
K Lightbourne (Walsall) 9 (7)
D Dublin (Coventry) 8 (1)
S Collymore (Nottm F) 8 (19)
T Sheringham (Spurs) 8 (14)

☐ Figure in brackets denotes last season's goals

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	P	W (Home)	D	L	F	A	W (Away)	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Blackburn	19	8	0	1	27	9	5	4	1	14	6	43	+26
2 Man Utd	19	9	0	1	22	2	4	2	3	14	12	41	+22
3 Newcastle	19	6	3	0	23	9	5	2	3	16	13	38	+17
4 Nottm For	19	5	3	2	18	11	5	2	2	15	9	35	+13
5 Liverpool	19	6	3	0	18	5	3	3	4	16	13	33	+16
6 Leeds	19	6	2	1	16	9	3	2	5	13	16	31	+4
7 Norwich	19	6	3	0	14	5	2	3	5	5	10	30	+4
8 Chelsea	19	4	2	3	15	7	4	2	4	11	16	28	+3
9 Man City	19	5	3	1	24	11	3	1	6	6	20	28	-1
10 Tottenham	19	4	2	4	18	17	3	3	3	14	17	26	-2
11 Arsenal	19	3	3	3	12	10	3	3	4	11	12	24	+1
12 Coventry	19	4	3	3	10	11	2	3	4	10	18	24	-9
13 QPR	19	5	1	4	18	16	1	3	5	11	19	22	-6
14 Wimbledon	19	5	1	4	15	16	1	3	5	6	17	22	-12
15 Soton	18	3	3	3	10	10	2	3	4	15	20	21	-5
16 C Palace	19	2	2	5	6	11	3	4	3	9	9	21	-5
17 West Ham	19	5	1	3	9	6	1	2	7	6	15	21	-6
18 Sheff Wed	19	3	4	3	9	10	2	2	5	10	18	21	-9
19 Everton	19	3	5	2	13	10	1	2	6	2	14	19	-9
20 A Villa	18	1	5	3	7	10	2	2	5	14	19	16	-8
21 Leicester	19	3	4	3	14	14	0	1	8	5	19	14	-14
22 Ipswich	19	2	1	7	13	20	1	2	6	6	19	12	-20

Endsleigh Insurance League

FIRST DIVISION

BOLTON (1) 3 **GRIMSBY** (2) 3
Coyle 14, 58; Lee 88 — Woods 5; Jobling 8; Groves 90
10,522

CHARLTON (0) 2 **OLDHAM** (0) 0
Whyte 58; Jones 76 — 8,970

DERBY (0) 1 **BARNSLEY** (0) 0
Johnson 68 — 13,205

NOTTS COUNTY (0) 0 **PORTSMOUTH** (0) 1
6,382 — Wood 60

PORT VALE (1) 2 **SWINDON** (1) 2
Foyle 11, 58 — Taylor 25; Fjortoft 50
7,747

SOUTHEND (0) 0 **MILLWALL** (1) 1
5,833 — Cadette 10

SUNDERLAND (0) 2 **BRISTOL CITY** (0) 0
Howey 54, 75 — 11,661

TRANMERE (0) 0 **STOKE** (0) 1
7,601 — Carruthers 81

WATFORD (0) 0 **SHEFF UTD** (0) 0
8,919

Yesterday

BURNLEY (0) 0 **MIDDLESBRO** (1) 3
12,049 — Hendrie 14, 64, 90

READING (2) 4 **WOLVES** (1) 2
Osborn 23; Quinn 38; Gilkes 62, 89 — Bull 9; Quinn 58 (og)
10,136

WEST BROM (1) 1 **LUTON** (0) 0
Donovan 35 — 14,392

SECOND DIVISION

BIRMINGHAM (1) 2 **L ORIENT** (0) 0
Donowa 2, 87 — 20,022

BRADFORD (1) 1 **CHESTER** (0) 1
Taylor 2 — Milner 71
4,555

BRENTFORD (2) 7 **PLYMOUTH** (0) 0
Annon 3; Smith 8; Taylor 48, 56; Forster 50; Mundee 74; Harvey 87 — 4,492

BRIGHTON (0) 1 **SWANSEA** (1) 1
Codner 59 — Torpey 3
6,817

BRISTOL R (0) 3 **PETERBORO** (1) 1
Stewart (pen) 56, 72; Gurney 76 — Farrell 38
4,635

CARDIFF (0) 1 **STOCKPORT** (0) 1
Dale 90 — Gannon 82
3,448

HUDDERSFIELD (0) 1 **BLACKPOOL** (0) 1
Booth 63 — Watson 72
11,536

HULL (2) 3 **OXFORD UTD** (1) 1
Windass 17, 28; Fettis 88 — Elliott 43
4,884

Friday

Bournemouth 1 Wrexham 3, Cambridge United 2 Wycombe Wanderers 2; Crewe Alexandra 2 York City 1; Shrewsbury 1 Rotherham 0

THIRD DIVISION

EXETER (0) 0 **DARLINGTON** (1) 2
2,338 — Gaughan 7; Worboys 52

HARTLEPOOL (2) 3 **BURY** (0) 1
Houchen 27, 45, 70 — Daws 49
1,746

PRESTON (0) 1 **BARNET** (0) 0
Kidd 88 — 6,429

ROCHDALE (2) 2 **GILLINGHAM** (0) 1
Stuart 25; Valentine 31 — Foster 64
1,665

SCARBORO (1) 1 **CARLISLE** (1) 2
Rockett 24 — Gallimore (pen) 28; Currie 49
1,910

TORQUAY (1) 2 **LINCOLN** (0) 1
Hancox 42; Sturridge 88 — Daws 59
2,004

WALSALL (1) 4 **HEREFORD** (2) 3
Houghton 27; Lightbourne 47, 55; Ryder 58 — Cross 36; James 43; White 89
3,652

WIGAN (1) 1 **FULHAM** (0) 1
Leonard 4 — Marshall 81
1,791

Yesterday

MANSFIELD (2) 4 **CHESTERFIELD** (0) 2
Campbell 2; Wilkinson 25, 79, 82 — Davies 76; Robinson 78
3,519

Friday

Doncaster 1 Colchester 2, Northampton Town 0 Scunthorpe 1.

SENDINGS OFF

First division: Wood (Portsmth) 70; Stevens (Millwall) 32; Dowell (Burnley) 48; Livingstone (Grimsby) 72.
Third division: Houchen (Hartlpool) 81; Newson (Barnet) 30; Scott (Barnet) 90; Wells (Scarboro) 28; Wells (Scarboro) 28; Caig (Carlisle) 86; Greenall (Lincoln) 77.

GOALSCORERS

First division: 19 Aldridge (Tranmere); Fjortoft (Swindon). 13 Whyte (Charlton); McGinlay (Bolton). 12 Scott (Swindon). 11 McCarthy (Oldham); Hendrie (Middlesbrough); Kelly (Wolverhampton). 10 Gray (Sunderland); Malkin (Tranmere); Goodman (Millwall); Foyle (Port Vale). 9 Nogan (Watford); Peschisolido (Stoke); Creaney (Portsmouth).

Second division: 20 Bennett (Wrexham). 19 Moody (Oxford Utd). 17 Goater (Rotherham); Stewart (Bristol Rovers). 16 Booth (Huddersfield). 14 Jepson (Huddersfield). 13 Jewell (Bradford); Stant (Cardiff); Taylor (Brentford). 12 Ellis (Blackpool); Francis (Stockport); Corazzin (Cambridge Utd); Miller (Bristol Rovers); Nogan (Brighton). 11 Barnes (York).

Third division: 16 Freedman (Barnet). 15 Reeves (Carlisle). 13 Lightbourne (Walsall). 12 Carter (Bury); White (Hereford). 10 Whitehall (Rochdale); Whitton (Colchester); Wilkinson (Mansfield); Cooper (Barnet). 9 Jones (Doncaster); Hancox (Torquay); Pike (Gillingham); Wilson (Walsall). 8 Houchen (Hartlepool); Brown (Colchester).

UEFA Euro 96

GROUP TWO

RESULTS: Macedonia 1 Denmark 1, Cyprus 1 Spain 2, Belgium 2 Armenia 0, Armenia 0 Cyprus 0, Denmark 3 Belgium 1, Macedonia 0 Spain 2, Belgium 1 Macedonia 1, Spain 3 Denmark 0, Cyprus 2 Armenia 0, Belgium 1 Spain 4, Macedonia 3 Cyprus 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	4	4	0	0	11	2	12
Macedonia	4	1	2	1	5	4	5
Denmark	3	1	1	1	4	5	4
Cyprus	4	1	1	2	3	5	4
Belgium	4	1	1	2	5	9	4
Armenia	3	0	1	2	0	4	1

GROUP SIX

RESULTS: Northern Ireland 4 Liechtenstein 1, Liechtenstein 0 Austria 4, Latvia 0 Ireland 3, Northern Ireland 1 Portugal 2, Latvia 1 Portugal 3, Austria 1 Northern Ireland 2, Ireland 4 Liechtenstein 0, Portugal 1 Austria 0, Liechtenstein 0 Latvia 1, Northern Ireland 0 Ireland 4, Portugal 8 Liechtenstein 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal	4	4	0	0	14	2	12
Ireland	3	3	0	0	11	0	9
N Ireland	4	2	0	2	7	8	6
Austria	3	1	0	2	5	3	3
Latvia	3	1	0	2	2	6	3
Liechtenstein	5	0	0	5	1	21	0

GROUP SEVEN

RESULTS: Georgia 0 Moldavia 1, Wales 2 Albania 0, Moldavia 3 Wales 2, Bulgaria 2 Georgia 0, Albania 1 Germany 2, Georgia 5 Wales 0, Bulgaria 4 Moldavia 1, Albania 0 Georgia 1, Moldavia 0 Germany 3, Wales 0 Bulgaria 3, Germany 2 Albania 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	3	3	0	0	9	1	9
Germany	3	3	0	0	7	2	9
Georgia	4	2	0	2	6	3	6
Moldavia	4	2	0	2	5	9	6
Wales	4	1	0	3	4	11	3
Albania	4	0	0	4	2	7	0

GROUP EIGHT

GREECE (1) 1 **SCOTLAND** (0) 0
Apostolakis 18 (pen) — 20,310
(at Olympic Stadium, Athens)

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP FIRST ROUND

CALEDONIAN (0) 1 **QUEEN OF STH** (0) 2
McAllister 89 — Bell 73; Bryce 84
1,943

DUMBARTON (1) 3 **STIRLING** (1) 3
Ward 23, 70; McKinnon 47 — Watters 34; Mitchell 58 (pen); Tait 72
875

STENHSMUIR (1) 3 **E STIRLING** (0) 0
1,000 — Mathieson 22; Sprott 76 (pen); Christie 78

POSTPONED: Albion v Montrose

Bell's Scottish League First division
POSTPONED: Clydebank v Hamilton

CONFERENCE

DOVER (0) 0 **STALYBRDGE** (0) 0
803

FARNBOROUGH (0) 1 **MACCLESFIELD** (0) 0
Turkington 65 — 724

GATESHEAD (0) 0 **TELFORD** (0) 0
475

KETTERING (0) 2 **ALTRINCHAM** (1) 2
Alford 59, 90 — Cross 17; Terry (pen) 89
1,706

KIDDERMINSTER (0) 1 **RUNCORN** (1) 1
Humphreys 50 — Thomas 6
2,051

NORTHWICH (0) 1 **BATH** (0) 1
Hardy 90 — Vernon 68
775

SOUTHPORT (1) 1 **DAG & RED** (1) 1
Haw 29 — Richardson 18
1,058

STAFFORD (0) 1 **WELLING** (0) 1
Griffiths 83 — Penny (og) 62
635

STEVENAGE (4) 5 **YEOVIL** (0) 0
Nyamah 4; Hayles 17; Venables 21; Lynch 43; Sodje 71 — 1,114

WOKING (2) 4 **BROMSGROVE** (0) 0
Walker (pen) 4, 10; Greene 64, 70 — 1,517

	P	W (Home)	D	L	F	A	W (Away)	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Macclesfield	22	8	3	1	21	9	6	2	2	19	10	47
2 Woking	22	6	5	1	26	13	6	0	4	12	12	41
3 Gateshead	24	7	3	3	17	7	4	3	4	16	21	39
4 Altrincham	21	5	1	5	19	13	6	3	1	26	12	37
5 Southport	22	7	2	2	28	12	4	2	5	8	15	37
6 Kidderminster	22	5	4	2	20	12	4	4	3	17	17	35
7 Kettering	22	6	3	2	18	10	3	3	5	13	14	33
8 Bromsgrove	22	5	4	2	22	17	4	2	5	14	18	33
9 Stalybridge	22	7	1	2	17	12	2	4	6	16	25	32
10 Bath	23	5	1	5	21	21	3	4	5	13	19	29
11 Welling	22	5	2	4	20	19	3	2	6	14	23	28
12 Farnborough	22	4	2	4	10	14	4	2	6	12	20	28
13 Halifax	18	5	2	1	19	7	2	4	4	12	18	27
14 Stevenage	22	5	2	5	23	19	3	1	6	10	13	27
15 Runcorn	22	5	4	2	18	14	2	2	7	13	23	27
16 Northwich	19	2	5	2	15	11	3	5	2	19	16	25
17 Telford	20	6	4	0	17	6	0	3	7	10	21	25
18 Dover	19	3	6	1	13	8	2	2	5	9	13	23
19 Merthyr	21	5	1	5	19	17	1	3	6	10	21	22
20 Dag & Red	22	3	3	5	12	17	2	3	6	7	19	21
21 Yeovil	23	3	2	6	14	16	1	5	6	10	23	18
22 Stafford	22	2	1	7	16	30	2	3	7	14	32	16

Yeovil deducted one point



Liverpool's Mark Walters and Glenn Hoddle of Chelsea tussle for the ball in the 0-0 draw at Stamford Bridge yesterday. Photograph: Eddie Keogh. Report, page 25

EUROPEAN RESULTS

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Bari 1 Parma 2; Cremonese 3 Torino 0; Fiorentina 1 Foggia 1; Inter Milan 0 Lazio 2; Juventus 1 Genoa 1; Reggiana 3 Padova 0, AC Roma 0 AC Milan 0; Sampdoria 5 Cagliari 0. Positions: 1, Parma, played 14, 9 points; 2, Juventus, 22, 30; 3, Fiorentina, 14, 26; 4, Lazio, 14, 25; 5, Roma, 14, 24, 6, Bari, 14, 22; 7, Sampdoria, 14, 21; 8, Foggia, 14, 18; 9, AC Milan, 12, 17; 10, Inter Milan, 14, 17; 11, Cagliari, 14, 17, 12, Torino, 12, 15; 13, Napoli, 13, 15; 14, Cremonese, 14, 15, 15, Genoa, 14, 13; 16, Padova, 14, 11, 17, Reggiana, 13, 9; 18, Brescia, 13, 4.

DUTCH LEAGUE: Roda JC 2 FC Volendam 1, Go Ahead Eagles 2 FC Groningen 4; Dordrecht '90 1 MVV Maastricht 2; NEC 2 Willem II 2; Vitesse 6 FC Twente 1; Feyenoord 1 RKC 0. Positions: 1, Roda JC, played 16, 26 points 26; 2, Ajax, 13, 23; 3, FC Twente, 16, 23; 4, PSV, 16, 21; 5, Vitesse, 16, 20; 6, Feyenoord, 15, 19; 7, Heerenveen, 16, 18, 8, Willem II, 16, 17; 9, MVV, 16, 16; 10, FC Groningen, 16, 14; 11, FC Utrecht, 15, 13; 12, Sparta, 16, 13, 13, NAC, 15, 12; 14, FC Volendam, 16, 12; 15, NEC, 15, 11; 16, RKC, 15, 10; 17, GA Eagles, 16, 7; 18, Dordrecht '90, 16, 6.

FRENCH LEAGUE: Montpellier 3 St Etienne 2, Martigues 1 Bordeaux 0, Rennes 0 Lens 1, Nice 0 Le Havre 2; Paris Saint Germain 1 Strasbourg 0; Lille 1 Sochaux 0; Caen 0 Nantes 2, Auxerre 2 Monaco 2; Lyon 0 Bastia 0; Metz 3 Cannes 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Nantes	22	12	9	0	38	16	45
Paris St G	22	12	5	4	32	17	41
Lyon	22	9	8	4	30	21	35
Cannes	22	10	4	7	30	21	34
Bordeaux	22	9	6	6	29	25	33
Auxerre	22	7	11	3	35	20	32
Lens	22	8	8	4	27	20	32
Strasbourg	22	9	4	8	27	23	31
Martigues	22	8	6	7	26	30	30
Metz	22	8	5	8	27	30	29
Monaco	22	6	9	6	20	17	27
St Etienne	22	7	5	9	28	25	26
Le Havre	22	5	11	5	25	23	26
Rennes	22	6	6	9	23	35	24
Lille	22	6	6	9	15	24	24
Nice	22	5	6	10	18	28	21
Bastia	22	5	6	10	19	31	21
Caen	22	5	3	13	19	30	18
Montpellier	22	3	9	9	19	33	18
Sochaux	22	5	3	13	21	40	18

ROMANIAN LEAGUE: Maramures Baia Mare 2 A Dacia Pitesti 3, Sp Studentesc 3 F Constanta 3; P Ploiesti 3 I Sibiu 1; Univ Craiova 4 E Craiova 1; D Bucharest 1 UT Arad 1; Brasov 0 N Bucuresti 4, Univ Cluj 1 C Piatra Neamt 1, O Galati 4 R Bucharest 0; St Bucharest 3 G Bistrita 1

YUGOSLAVIAN LEAGUE: Rad 1 Vojvodina 1, Napredak 1 Red Star 3, Partizan 4 Rudar 1, Zemun 2 OFK Belgrade 1, Radnicki (N) 7 Spartak 1

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W (Home)	D	L	F	A	W (Away)	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Middlesbro	22	8	1	2	21	8	5	3	3	14	11	43	35
2 Wolves	22	8	1	2	23	11	3	3	5	16	16	37	39
3 Bolton	22	7	3	1	21	8	3	3	5	15	19	36	36
4 Tranmere	22	8	2	1	26	12	2	4	5	9	14	36	35
5 Reading	22	5	4	2	14	8	5	2	4	14	14	36	28
6 Barnsley	22	7	3	1	16	7	3	2	6	8	16	35	24
7 Sheff Utd	22	7	2	2	19	8	2	4	5	14	15	33	33
8 Grimsby	22	6	4	1	18	9	2	5	4	14	18	33	32
9 Stoke	22	6	2	3	20	10	3	4	4	6	15	33	26
10 Derby	22	5	4	2	14	8	3	3	5	9	11	31	23
11 Southend	22	7	1	3	14	8	2	3	6	9	25	31	23
12 Luton	22	2	3	6	14	18	6	3	2	17	12	30	31
13 Watford	22	5	5	1	14	9	2	4	5	8	15	30	22
14 Oldham	22	6	3	2	18	11	2	2	7	10	18	29	28
15 Millwall	22	5	4	2	19	12	2	3	6	9	16	28	28
16 Sunderland	22	2	6	3	10	10	4	4	3	14	10	28	24
17 Charlton	21	4	3	4	16	14	2	5	3	16	18	26	32
18 Port Vale	22	5	3	3	17	12	1	4	6	9	17	25	26
19 Swindon	22	5	5	2	18	14	1	1	8	12	23	24	30
20 Burnley	21	2	5	3	12	14	3	4	4	9	14	24	21
21 West Brom	22	6	2	2	12	8	0	4	8	7	22	23	19
22 Portsmouth	22	2	4	5	11	17	3	4	4	11	16	23	22
23 Bristol C	22	3	3	5	9	15	2	1	8	8	17	19	17
24 Notts Co	22	3	4	4	13	15	1	2	8	8	17	18	21

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W (Home)	D	L	F	A	W (Away)	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Oxford Utd	20	8	2	0	18	7	5	2	3	19	14	43	37
2 Birmingham	20	6	3	1	21	6	6	3	1	16	6	42	37
3 Wycombe	20	7	2	1	17	8	5	2	3	15	16	40	32
4 Huddersfld	20	7	2	1	20	10	4	4	2	21	17	39	41
5 Hull	20	7	0	3	21	9	4	3	3	14	18	36	35
6 Crewe	20	6	1	3	21	17	4	2	4	17	22	33	38
7 Bristol R	20	5	5	0	24	11	3	4	3	9	7	33	33
8 Blackpool	20	7	1	2	18	13	3	2	5	14	15	33	32
9 Brentford	20	6	0	4	19	9	4	2	4	15	11	32	34
10 Wrexham	20	6	2	2	19	10	3	3	4	15	17	32	34
11 Stockport	20	6	0	4	16	12	4	2	4	15	15	32	31
12 Bradford	20	4	2	4	13	14	5	2	3	16	15	31	29
13 Swansea	20	4	4	2	9	6	3	4	3	16	16	29	25
14 Peterboro	20	2	5	3	12	16	5	2	3	13	14	28	25
15 York	20	5	2	3	16	12	2	3	5	8	12	26	24
16 Shrewsbury	20	4	3	3	18	14	2	1	7	8	13	22	26
17 Rotherham	20	5	2	3	16	14	1	2	7	8	15	22	24
18 Brighton	20	3	5	2	9	7	2	2	6	11	19	22	20
19 Plymouth	20	2	2	6	9	22	3	1	6	11	21	18	20
20 Cambridge	20	4	3	3	19	16	0	2	8	6	20	17	25
21 Cardiff	20	2	3	5	11	13	2	2	6	13	20	17	24
22 L Orient	20	4	3	3	11	9	0	1	9	5	19	16	16
23 Chester	20	3	2	5	11	17	0	2	8	3	16	13	14
24 Bournemth	20	2	1	7	10	21	0	2	8	5	22	9	15

THIRD DIVISION

	P	W (Home)	D	L	F	A	W (Away)	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Carlisle	19	8	2	0	19	5	6	2	1	16	9	46	35
2 Bury	19	7	3	1	14	4	5	1	2	14	5	40	28
3 Doncaster	19	6	2	1	18	6	4	4	2	13	8	38	31
4 Barnet	19	4	4	1	19	10	6	1	3	10	10	35	29
5 Walsall	19	6	1	2	20	11	3	6	1	13	10	34	33
6 Colchester	19	5	2	3	16	17	4	3	2	11	10	32	27
7 Chesterfield	19	4	4	2	8	5	4	1	4	15	17	29	23
8 Torquay	19	5	4	1	18	12	2	2	5	8	12	27	26
9 Preston	19	4	0	4	13	9	4	2	5	12	14	26	25
10 Fulham	19	3	3	3	12	9	3	5	2	9	11	26	21
11 Mansfield	19	3	2	5	12	13	4	2	3	16	14	25	28
12 Rochdale	19	4	2	3	14	13	3	2	5	14	25	25	28
13 Scunthorpe	19	3	2	4	14	12	4	2	4	13	14	25	27
14 Lincoln	19	4	4	2	15	11	2	1	6	9	13	23	24
15 Darlington	19	3	2	5	13	15	3	2	4	9	10	22	22
16 Exeter	19	5	2	3	15	16	1	2	6	2	13	22	17
17 Hartlepool	19	5	1	4	11	10	1	3	5	4	12	22	15
18 Wigan	19	2	2	5	14	15	3	1	6	9	15	18	23
19 Gillingham	19	3	3	3	10	10	1	2	7	11	20	17	21
20 Hereford	19	2	2	5	6	12	2	2	6	18	23	16	22
21 Northamptn	19	2	3	5	7	11	0	6	3	6	10	15	13
22 Scarboro	19	1	3	5	9	13	2	1	7	9	22	13	18

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W (Home)	D	L	F	A	W (Away)	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Rangers	17	6	1	1	14	4	5	2	2	17	9	36	+18
2 Motherwell	17	4	4	1	17	12	3	4	1	14	11	29	+8
3 Hibernian	17	4	5	0	19	9	1	6	1	4	5	26	+9
4 Falkirk	17	3	3	2	11	12	2	5	2	14	14	23	-1
5 Celtic	16	2	4	2	8	9	2	5	1	9	7	21	+1
6 Dundee Utd	16	3	3	2	11	10	2	1	5	8	16	19	-7
7 Hearts	16	4	2	2	11	6	1	1	6	8	19	18	-6
8 Kilmarnock	17	3	3	3	9	8	1	3	4	7	14	18	-6
9 Aberdeen	17	2	4	2	12	10	1	2	6	7	13	15	-4
10 Partick	16	2	2	4	10	12	1	2	5	4	14	13	-12

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W (Home)	D	L	F	A	W (Away)	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Dundee	17	6	3	0	18	8	4	1	3	12	12	34	+10
2 Dunfermline	17	7	1	1	22	4	2	5	1	12	10	33	+20
3 Airdrie	16	4	4	0	13	2	5	2	1	15	9	33	+17
4 Raith	17	2	5	1	14	12	3	3	3	11	8	23	+5
5 St Johnstn	17	4	3	1	14	5	1	5	3	10	15	23	+4
6 Hamilton	16	4	2	2	13	13	1	3	4	4	12	20	-8
7 Clydebank	16	3	2	3	11	8	1	3	4	5	12	17	-4
8 St Mirren	16	2	2	4	8	10	0	6	2	7	10	14	-5
9 Ayr	17	2	4	2	11	13	0	2	7	2	19	12	-19
10 Stranraer	17	2	4	3	7	8	0	0	8	5	24	10	-20

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W (Home)	D	L	F	A	W (Away)	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Berwick	17	6	2	0	11	5	2	2	5	17	22	28	+1
2 Greenock M	16	5	2	1	15	5	3	1	4	8	11	27	+7
3 Stenhsmuir	16	3	5	0	9	3	3	3	2	10	10	26	+6
4 East Fife	16	4	1	3	18	13	3	3	2	7	8	25	+4
5 Dumbarton	16	5	1	2	15	7	2	2	4	8	13	24	+3
6 Stirling	16	3	1	4	11	10	4	1	3	11	12	23	0
7 Clyde	16	3	3	2	16	11	3	1	4	8	10	22	+3
8 Meadowbnk	17	3	2	4	9	8	3	2	3	12	12	19	+1
9 Queen of S	16	3	1	4	13	12	2	3	3	5	9	19	-3
10 Brechin	16	1	1	6	8	16	1	1	6	4	18	8	-22

Meadowbank deducted 3 points

THIRD DIVISION

	P	W (Home)	D	L	F	A	W (Away)	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Montrose	16	6	1	1	17	6	4	3	1	13	7	34	+17
2 Forfar	16	7	1	0	16	6	4	0	4	7	10	34	+7
3 E Stirling	16	4	1	3	16	11	4	2	2	16	11	27	+10
4 Cowdenbth	16	3	3	2	14	11	5	0	3	15	9	27	+9
5 Alloa	16	3	3	2	9	8	4	3	1	17	10	27	+8
6 Caledonian	16	3	3	2	15	16	4	1	3	11	10	25	0
7 Ross Co	16	3	1	4	15	15	3	3	2	9	7	22	+2
8 Queen's Pk	16	2	1	5	7	15	1	2	5	10	14	12	-12
9 Arbroath	16	0	2	6	2	12	3	0	5	16	22	11	-16
10 Albion	16	1	0	7	8	20	0	2	6	6	19	5	-25

NON-LEAGUE AND REGIONAL LEAGUES

UNIBOND

Premier division: Boston 2 Chorley 0; Buxton 0 Marine 2, Droylsden 1 Accrington Stanley 3; Emley 0 Matlock 1, Frickley 2 Witton 2; Horwich 0 Hyde 1; Knowsley 2 Guiseley 1, Morecambe 1 Bishop Auckland 0; Spennymoor 0 Barrow 1; Whitley Bay 0 Colwyn Bay 2; Winsford 2 Gainsborough 0

First division: Caernarfon 3 Worksop 4, Congleton 2 Lancaster 2, Eastwood Town 0 Netherfield 0, Goole 2 Bamber Bridge 2, Great Harwood 4 Curzon Ashton 3; Gretna 2 Ashton United 1; Harrogate 2 Fleetwood 1; Mossley 0 Blyth Spartans 1, Radcliffe 3 Alfreton 2; Warrington 4 Farsley Celtic 0; Workington 1 Atherton LR 0.

Premier div	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Marine	25	19	5	1	52	15	62
Morecambe	23	15	4	4	52	26	49
Guiseley	22	14	6	2	50	28	48
Boston Utd	22	10	7	5	37	21	37
Barrow	22	11	2	9	40	36	35
B Auckland	22	10	4	8	38	26	34
Colwyn Bay	21	10	2	9	45	42	32
Witton	24	7	11	6	28	31	32
Gainsboro	23	8	7	8	40	35	31
Spennymoor	22	9	4	9	34	32	31
Winsford	25	8	7	10	38	43	31
Buxton	25	8	6	11	34	38	30
Hyde	19	8	5	6	32	29	29
Knowsley	20	7	7	6	36	33	28
Emley	23	7	6	10	32	39	27
Chorley	23	7	5	11	36	48	26
Horwich	24	7	3	14	33	41	24
Ac Stanley	21	5	7	9	23	38	22
Whitley Bay	23	4	6	13	27	50	18
Frickley	20	3	8	9	24	37	17
Droylsden	22	4	5	13	27	55	17
Matlock	19	5	1	13	22	37	16

BEAZER HOMES

Premier division: Atherstone 0 Worcester 0, Cheltenham 1 Burton 2; Crawley 2 Corby 2, Dorchester 3 VS Rugby 1 Gresley 3 Hastings 2, Halesowen 3 Chelmsford 2, Hednesford 1 Gloucester 3; Leek 2 Gravesend and Northfleet 0; Rushden and Diamonds 3 Solihull 1, Sittingbourne 1 Cambridge City 1, Sudbury 2 Trowbridge 4.

Midland division: Bridgnorth 1 Nuneaton 2; Buckingham 2 Grantham 0; Evesham 0 RC Warwick 2; Hinckley 1 Redditch 1; Ilkeston 1 Forest Green 0; King's Lynn 2 Bilston 2, Moor Green 2 Dudley 3 Rothwell 0 Newport AFC 2; Stourbridge 2 Sutton Coldfield 0; Tamworth 3 Leicester 1

Southern division: Ashford 3 Waterlooville 0, Bashley 0 Baldock 0; Braintree 1 Clevedon 1, Burnham 0 Fisher 93 1; Erith and Belvedere 0 Salisbury 6, Fareham 2 Bury 5; Havant 0 Witney 2; Margate 2 Poole 0; Newport IOW 3 Tonbridge AFC 3, Weston-super-Mare 4 Wealdstone 2; Yate 1 Weymouth 1.

Premier div	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hednesford	19	13	5	1	50	19	44
Leek Town	19	10	5	4	40	22	35
Cheltenham	17	10	3	4	39	16	33
Gloucester	16	10	3	3	34	13	33
Dorchester	18	10	2	4	35	20	32
Rushden & D	17	8	5	4	42	28	29
Gresley	17	9	2	6	35	30	29
Worcester	19	8	5	6	20	15	29
Burton	17	8	5	4	26	22	29
Halesowen	20	6	6	8	39	40	24
Cambridge C	17	6	4	7	18	22	22
Crawley Town	20	6	4	10	30	46	22
Hastings	15	5	6	4	20	19	21
Chelmsford	14	5	4	5	24	18	19
Trowbridge	17	4	7	6	20	25	19
Gravesend & N	16	5	4	7	15	22	19
Sudbury Town	18	5	4	9	24	40	19
Atherstone	20	4	6	10	21	33	18
Solihull	17	4	6	7	17	29	18
Sittingbourne	19	4	5	10	17	31	17
VS Rugby	18	3	5	10	15	30	14
Corby Town	18	1	2	15	16	57	5

DIADORA

Premier division: Bishop's Stortford 0 Harrow 2, Chesham 2 Hayes 3, Grays 1 Hitchin 3, Hendon 1 Enfield 3, Marlow 1 Wokingham 1, Slough 2 Purfleet 4, St Albans 8 Kingstonian 3, Sutton United 2 Molesey 3, Walton and Hersham 2 Aylesbury 0; Yeading 1 Bromley 3

First division: Abingdon Town 2 Berkhamsted 2, Aldershot Town 3 Uxbridge 0, Billericay 1 Wivenhoe 2, Bognor Regis 3 Staines 4; Boreham Wood 0 Worthing 4, Chertsey 3 Barking 1; Heybridge Swifts 1 Tooting and Mitcham 2; Leyton 2 Dorking 1, Maidenhead 4 Ruislip Manor 3; Wembley 3 Newbury 1, Whyteleafe 4 Basingstoke 2

Second division: Aveley 3 Croydon 1, Barton 4 Tilbury 1, Egham 0 Thame 2, Hemel Hempstead 1 Witham 3, Hungerford 0 Cheshunt 3, Leatherhead 3 Hampton 2, Malden Vale 1 Bracknell 5, Metropolitan Police 3 Windsor and Eton 2; Oxford City 1 Edgware 1, Ware 1 Chalfont St Peter 0.

Third division: Bedford Town 1 East Thurrock 1; Camberley 2 Tring 2 Epsom and Ewell 3 Flackwell Heath 1; Harlow 1 Cove 0, Kingsbury 3 Hertford 2; Leighton 2 Hornchurch 3, Lewes 1 Clapton 4, Northwood 1 Horsham 1, Southall 1 Harefield 0 Postponed: Canvey Island v Feltham and Hounslow.

Premier div	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hayes	19	12	6	1	34	16	42
Bromley	20	10	7	3	39	25	37
Slough	19	10	6	3	37	27	36
St Albans	18	9	5	4	53	40	32
Enfield	19	8	7	4	41	24	31
Carshalton	21	9	4	8	38	40	31
Harrow	20	9	2	9	32	32	29
Purfleet	18	8	4	6	36	34	28
Aylesbury	15	8	3	4	29	17	27
Yeading	17	7	5	5	37	30	26
Dulwich	19	7	5	7	35	38	26
Sutton Utd	21	6	6	9	32	32	24
Molesey	18	7	3	8	25	29	24
Grays	21	5	9	7	28	33	24
Chesham	19	6	5	8	34	32	23
Hendon	19	5	6	8	27	31	21
B Stortford	19	5	6	8	27	41	21
Kingstonian	17	4	6	7	27	31	18
Walton H	14	4	5	5	22	24	17
Hitchin	16	3	6	7	21	30	15
Marlow	19	2	7	10	22	40	13
Wokingham	18	1	3	14	16	46	6

FA VASE

Third Round: Hailsham 0 Eastleigh 4; Wick 4 Elmore 4, Banstead 3 Falmouth 5, Tunbridge Wells 1 Liskeard 1 Third round replay: Cammell Laird 1 Thackley 1.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper 5 Denaby 2, Brigg 0 Arnold 2; Glasshoughton Wel 3 Pontefract Col 0; Hallam 0 Ossett Town 3, Hucknall 2 North Ferriby 2; Liversedge 0 Lincoln 0; Maltby MW 1 Ashfield 2, Ossett Albion 3 Sheffield 1, Pickering 3 Armthorpe Welfare 0

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford 1 Odd Down 2; Calne 0 Taunton 3; Crediton 0 Chippenham 2, Mangotsfield 0 Tiverton 3, Saltash 0 Bristol Manor Farm 2; Torrington 2 Barnstaple 2, Westbury 0 Paulton 1

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chatteris 1 Hadleigh 8, Cornard 2 Wisbech 3; Diss 3 Fakenham 1, Great Yarmouth 4 Histon 2; Haverhill 3 Sudbury 2, March 0 Halstead 3, Newmarket 3 Felixstowe 1, Stowmarket 3 Harwich and Parkeston 3, Tiptree 0 Watton 2, Woodbridge 0 Lowestoft 3; Wroxham 0 Soham 1 (abandoned after 56 mins).

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Bacup 0 Trafford 7, Blackpool Rovers 1 Glossop North End 1, Bradford Park Avenue 3 Eastwood Hanley 2: Burscough 1 Newcastle Town 2.

Clitheroe 1 St Helens 0, Darwen 2 Nantwich 1: Holker OB 1 Chadderton 0, Kidsgrove 3 Skelmersdale 2, Maine Road 1 Rossendale 1; Salford 0 Penrith 0 Postponed: Prescot v Bootle

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Billingham Synthonia 0 Durham 0: Chester-le-Street 1 Tow Law 4; Eppleton CW 1 Whitby 2; Ferryhill 2 Bedlington Terriers 0, Guisborough 2 Consett 1: Hebburn 2 Shildon 2; Murton 3 Peterlee 1; Northallerton 2 Dunston FB 1, Prudhoe 4 Seaham Red Star 2; West Auckland 0 RTM Newcastle 3

ESSEX SENIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Basildon 6 Southend Manor 0, Bowers 1 Concord 2; Brentwood 0 Great Wakering 2; Burnham Ramblers 1 Sawbridgeworth 3, East Ham 1 Hullbridge Sports 0; Maldon 3 Ford 1, Romford 3 Stansted 1

HEREWARD SPORTS: United Counties League cup: Second round: Spalding 4 Potton 2.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Bnerly Hill 2 Stratford 4, Chasetown 2 Halesowen 5, Hinckley 1 Stapenhill 2; Oldbury 0 Knypersley Vic; Paget Rangers 2 West Midlands Police 0, Pershore 0 Willenhall 2; Rocester 1 Boldmere St M 1, Sandwell 1 Barwell 1, Shepshed 0 Bolehall 1; Shifnal 6 Rushall 0.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Amersham 0 Beaconsfield Sycob 3, Barkingside 2 St Margaretsbury 3, Brook House 4 Hanwell 2, Corinthian-Casuals 6 Walthamstow Pennant 0, Croydon 3 Cockfosters 1, Haringey 3 Tower Hamlets 0, Hillingdon 2 Willesden 1, Waltham Abbey 0 Brimsdown 4

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Biggleswade 1 Hoddesdon 1, Brache Sparta 4 Harpenden 1, Dunstable OB 0 Langford 0, Hatfield 1 Arlesey 2, Shillington 2 Letchworth 1, Welwyn GC 1 Royston 1; Wingate and F 5 Potters Bar 3

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash 2 Eton Wick 1, Cobham A 1 Chipstead 0; Cranleigh 1 Viking Sports 0, DCA Basingstoke 3 Godalming and Guildford 1; Netherne 3 Farnham 2; Peppard 0 Westfield 1.

SKOL MIDLAND FOOTBALL COMBINATION: First division: Badsey 6 Thimblemill REC 0, Barlestone St Giles 0 Polesworth NW 2; Bilston Community College 1 Kenilworth 2; Southam 2 Hams Hall 0; Wilmcote 4 Kings Norton 1

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel 0 Shoreham 1; Burgess Hill 0 Pagham 1; Crowborough 3 Littlehampton 0; Newhaven 4 East Grinstead 2; Oakwood 2 Langney Sports 2; Peacehaven 2 Stamco 0; Ringmer 0 Whitehawk 0, Southwick 4 Eastbourne 0; Three Bridges 0 Portfield 0.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury 2 Furness 1, Chatham 2 Folkestone Invicta 2; Corinthian 0 Ramsgate 3, Cray 1 Dartford 1; Crockenhill 8 Kent Police 0, Deal 0 Sheppey 2; Faversham 1 Herne Bay 2.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Chelsea 0 West Ham 3; Fulham 4 Charlton 1, Gillingham 3 QPR 2; Millwall 1 Watford 5, Norwich 3 Leyton Orient 1; Portsmouth 1 Arsenal 2; Southend 0 Ipswich 0; Tottenham 2 Cambridge Utd 0 Second division: Bristol Rovers 0 Brentford 1, Colchester 1 Wimbledon 1; Luton 2 Tottenham 3; Oxford 0 Bristol City 4; Reading 1 Bournemouth 2, Southampton 1 Swindon 0; Wycombe 0 Brighton 2.

LONDON OLD BOYS SENIOR CUP: Kingsburians 2 Danes 3, Shene 1 Meadonians 4; Brentwoods 3 Grocers 3

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Arthur Dunn Cup: First round: Ardinians 1 Foresters 7; Carthusians 0 Salopians 1; Chigwellians 3 Lancing OB 0.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardinal Manning 3 Clapham 2; Glyn 4 Hamptonians 0; Chertsey 0 Wilsonians 3; Ignatians 2 Aloysians 1

Premier div	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Aloysians	9	6	0	3	23	13	12
Meadonians	5	4	1	0	15	4	9
Glyn	8	5	1	2	23	10	11
Ignatians	8	5	1	2	21	14	11
Tenisonians	8	4	1	3	16	15	9
Clapham	11	3	2	6	25	39	8
Hamptonians	8	3	1	4	17	23	7
C Manning	6	3	1	2	17	13	7
Wilsonians	10	3	1	6	13	20	7
Danes	5	1	2	2	8	12	4
Chertsey	10	1	1	8	17	32	3

Senior first division: Phoenix 1 Isleworthians 2; Latymer 4 Wokingians 2; Edmontonians 4 Tiffinians 4. Senior second division: Enfield 5 Southallians 0; Vaughanians 0 Manorians 4, Camdenians 2 Westhamians 1; Meadonians 6 Mill Hill 1; Ignatians 3 Tollingtonians 2. Minchendenians 9 John Fisher 2 Senior third division: Hamptonians 4 Salvatorians 0, Glyn 0 Vaughanians 3, Phoenix 5 Greenfordians 2, Alpertonians 1 Chorleywood 3. Invitation senior cup: Owens 5 Surtonians 1

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: East Barnet OG 3 Old Latymerians 1; NatWest Bank 3 Old Actonians 1, Norsemen 0 West Wickham 0, South Bank 3 Civil Service 0; Winchmore Hill 1 Midland Bank 1, Second division: Kew Association 3 Alexandra Park 3, Lloyds Bank 2 Polytechnic 3, Old Parkonians 2 Broomfield 0, Old Parmiterians 2 Carshalton 2 Third division: Bank of England 0 Alleyn OB 1, Brentham 13 Merton 2, Ibis 5 Reigate Priory 0; Old Lyonian 0 Cuaco 3

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior First: Mill Hill Village 1 Witan 5, Nottsborough 2 Old Grammarians 2; Southgate County 2 Parkfield 2, Ulysses 2 Wandsworth Boro 2

NATIONAL

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Connah's Quay 0 Conwy 0; Cwmbran 2 Flint Town 0, Newtown 4 Llanelli 0; Rhyl 3 Llansantffraid 1.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Fourth round: Alan Lido 0 Ton Pentre 3, Bangor City 12 Maesteg Park 1, Barry 1 Llandudno 1, Merthyr Tydfil 1 Aberystwyth 0; Porthmadog 0 Caersws 0. Postponed: Ebbw Vale v Risca.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Bangor City	17	13	2	2	44	11	41
Newtown	17	10	6	1	45	18	36
I Cardiff	17	9	5	3	32	18	32
Cwmbran	18	10	1	7	31	25	31
Ton Pentre	14	9	2	3	32	19	29
Alan Lido	14	9	2	3	24	18	29
Rhyl	18	9	1	8	37	31	28
Flint Town	17	8	2	7	34	27	26
Holywell	16	7	4	5	29	24	25
Mold	19	8	1	10	36	45	25
Porthmadog	17	7	3	7	31	26	24
Llansant'ffraid	17	7	2	8	34	31	23
Connah's Q	18	6	5	7	24	25	23
Barry Town	15	6	4	5	26	24	22
Ebbw Vale	17	7	1	9	23	24	22
Conwy	18	6	4	8	25	30	22
Caersws	17	6	3	8	32	33	21
Llanelli	18	2	3	13	26	66	9
Aberystwyth	15	0	4	11	17	39	4
Maesteg Pk	17	0	3	14	7	55	3

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards 3 Larne 1, Ballyclare 2 Bangor 0, Carrick 0 Omagh 4, Cliftonville 3 Glenavon 1, Coleraine 0 Distillery 1, Glentoran 0 Crusaders 2; Newry 0 Ballymena 8 (match abandoned); Portadown 1 Linfield 2.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Cobh 1 Galway 2, Sligo 3 Cork 2.

POOLS CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1½	1½	2	2	1½	1½	2½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	2	1½	3	1½	3	1½	3	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½

30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
1½	3	2	1½	2	2½	3	3	3	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½

FORECAST: Telephone claims for 24pts: dividend forecast is good. There were 10 jackpot draws, 2 score draws and 5 no-score draws.

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leading's our-man ommittee egins on igh note

Reang 4
Wolverhampton W 2

RUSSELL KEMPSON

SPOTING committees are often high on ideas but short on tion. Yet at Elm Park yesday, Reading proved thatmany hands can make lighwork as they disposed of Wolrhampton Wanderers in pulsating Endsleigh Insurce League first division scra

Sle the acrimonious deparle of Mark McGhee, the mager, and his backroom staff Colin Lee and Mike Hian to Leicester City on Wesday, Reading have beerun by a players' coopetive of Jimmy Quinn, Mi Gooding, Jeff Hopkins anddrian Williams. Judging by eir combative display agast Wolverhampton, a wh new managerial ideology ay have inadvertently sprg up.

Ihad started ominously, thgh, with Wolverhampton got in front in the ninth mute. Ferguson swung over a ner and Bull was allowed thfreedom of the penalty ar to head past Hislop for hisinth goal of the season.

lading appeared in as mh disarray as their coachin department in midweek, wi Ferguson directing operaths against them and Bull mauding alone up front. Slly, however, they reorgaed, with Taylor a constant that along the right flank a Parkinson biting hard in mfield. Reward took time in coing but, in the 24th mute, it arrived in style.

All results and league tables ..... Page 26

Lovell sent a raking ossfield pass to Taylor, hose cross was met by the a-rushing Osborn; his loopg header gave Stowell little hance. Seven minutes before alf-time. Reading's urgency gain overcame Wolverhampon's resilience.

Parkinson cut in from the ight and, with no team-mate vailable, waited until he saw uinn move to the edge of the ix-yard area. He then passed nd Quinn rose above Smith nod past Stowell.

With a greasy surface inreasing the thrills and magfying the spills, it was no srprise that the second half oduced further incident. Hslop made smart saves to dy Bull and Mills and Osborn crashed a 25-yard vley against Stowell's far pt.

Volverhampton equalised inthe 59th minute, when Quinn made the faintest of tohes to Ferguson's free kic, directing it into his own ne Reading regained their les three minutes later. Lovell dispossessed the cumbersoe DeWolf and his low, hal shot squeezed under Stwell's diving body. The ball he up short of the line buGilkes thrashed it into the ne

Wo minutes from time, Reling broke clear through Hasenburger. Quinn helped on his pass to Gilkes and, after Stowell had saved his initial effit, Gilkes slapped in the rebund. A sweet victory for thcommittee.

READING (4-4-2): S Hislop — M Gooding, A Bist, K McPherson, D Kerr — S Taylor, P Pinson, S Osborn, M Gilkes — S Lovell (sub: J Hasenburger, 84min), J Quinn.
WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): I Stowell — J Smith, P Bledes, J Dew, M Venus — M Rankine, N Emblen, D Rouson, S Froggatt (sub: P Birch, 5; sub: Mills, 45) — S Bull, D Goodman.
Referee: P Alcock.

Megastores and merchandise take clubs into the high street

Football puts its shirt on profit



Andrew Longmore on a game realising the purchasing power of supporters ready to buy more than just a ticket



The United megastore offers wallpaper, duvets, curtains and lampshades. Photograph: Howard Barlow

The boy looked up, a blend of longing and wonder in his eyes. "Look at that smile," Keith McIntosh, the manager of the Manchester United superstore, said. "He's been waiting for this for ages and ages." It is half an hour before kick-off and the United superstore at Old Trafford is a cramped, swirling mixture of delight and frustration as parents count the cost of their children's dreams. The queues outside the store are longer than any to get into the ground and a burly security guard controls the flow of customers through the door, 1,200 an hour.

"It's like a pub on a Friday night," McIntosh said. "You ask 'Who's next?' and 18 hands go up." And then down again, deep into their pockets. Last year, United's merchandising department earned £14.23 million, an increase of 172 per cent over the previous year. In 1991-92, the figure was £2.7 million.

Nothing has symbolised football's headlong rush into post-Taylor report respectability more than the transformation of the club shop. Gone are the holes in the wall where you could buy a scarf, an old programme and a trinket or two on match days.

In their place have come superstores, open six days a week and packed with everything from club duvets to gnomes, underpants, aftershave, jeans, teddy bears, mountain bikes and cardboard cut-outs of Stuart Pearce as clubs belatedly cash in on society's desperation to belong. You could go from cradle to grave wearing nothing but Manchester United gear, if you wanted to, though worry about the cost might shorten the span a little. Glory does not come cheap in the new age of commercialism.

In marketing terms, United are in a different league from the rest, the footballing equivalent of Marks and Spencer, so strong internationally the club plans to open stores in Tokyo and Sydney to add to its branches in Plymouth, Dublin, Belfast and the centre of Manchester. A second superstore was opened at Old Trafford this month. "This is by far and away the biggest merchandising operation, at least double the size of any other club," said Gerry Boon, of the accountants, Touche Ross, who specialise in analysing football club accounts.

Smaller clubs have also realised that, shorn of their tatty, violent, backstreet images, they too can start to trade on their names, compete for quality and trustworthiness with high street stores. "We have a loyalty from our customers which any of the retail stores — River Island, Gap, for example — would die for," Charles Rayner, the retail operations manager at Leicester City, said. As clubs look for ways of financing spiralling transfer fees and better facilities, the need to make the most of that loyalty has become acute.

Rayner is representative of the new breed of specialist commercial manager prompting football's marketing boom. He came to Filbert Street from the Burton Group and immediately began to broaden the club's commercial horizons. The club set up its own company, Fox Leisure, in July 1992 to control the manufacture and retail of its own goods. Its replica kits, for example, are made by a local company in Leicester and sold exclusively to the club, not bought from one of the big manufacturers. That way, Rayner says, the club can control the quality of the goods and ensure that the delicate relationship between club and supporter is not abused. A commercial panel at Leicester meets every six weeks and gives supporters the chance to approve samples of goods and voice complaints or suggestions.

"In the past, clubs have not had a reputation for selling good quality stuff," Rayner said. "If you look after your customers, they will keep coming back because they want to be involved with the team and they want a bit of nostalgia. But they have got to know they're not being taken for a ride."

The recent furore over the exploitation of replica kits has highlighted the difficulty when clubs become businesses. Once, only the standard of football would have caused anger among supporters; now it can be the stitching on a football shirt, the exorbitant price of a baseball cap or little Johnny's insistence on having the latest kaleidoscopic away strip at a cost of £55.99. Marks and Spencer do not have complaints if they change their stock every season. Football clubs do because their customers are supporters and have no choice.

Yet the revenue from the sale of replica kits is vital to the growth of football merchandising. Last year, 50 per cent of Fox Leisure's £1.2 million turnover came from the sale of the club's football strips.

But the danger of the new merchandising goes deeper than mere exploitation. Under the influence of television and marketing, a new type of superstore supporter is being nurtured, one whose association with football extends no further than the name on the back of his United shirt and who would no more travel to Old Trafford to watch a game than he would pop down the road to support his local club. Too many of those passers-by and the soul of the game dies.

Brentford, one of the more progressive clubs in the lower divisions, are trying hard to make the most of a limited market. The club took charge of its own shop three years ago, standardised the logos, broadened its range of items and opened the doors of its shop Monday to Friday as well as on match days. In 1992-93, profits from merchandising reached £58,000 and, while last year's figures were hit by the club's relegation to the second division, the club estimates a profit of £30,000 for this year.

"We can't afford to worry about the Manchester United factor," Keith Loring, the club's chief executive, said. "We can say to kids 'What are Manchester United doing for you?' but we're not going to change it. United are their television team. What we can do is to prepare for success so that when it comes we're ready for it. I'm aware that the gap between the big teams and the rest can only get bigger, but there are only seven or eight big clubs. The others come and go in cycles. I would like to think we could be one of those. But it's a constant battle."

The next step for the FA Carling Premiership is to establish a central marketing operation such as the National Basketball Association has in the United States. There are long-term plans to open a Premiership store in London, selling club goods under a Premiership name. But getting 22 private companies, with the differing profiles of, say, Wimbledon and Manchester United, to agree an equitable share of the profits might prove almost impossible.

"That idea is a little down the road," Richard Carpenter, operations manager for the Premiership, said. "The clubs are becoming very professional in their merchandising anyway. They're learning how to present their shops, appointing specialists and providing the right quality of goods to meet the trends."

But now that clubs are providing insurance and travel, operating radio stations and sticking logos on anything from suspender belts to wrist watches, where is the limit? Failure on the field, perhaps. Not in United's case. "Clubs would be unwise to stray too far from their core business, which is football," Boon warned. "I don't think selling a United car, for example, would be very profitable." It would be unwise to bet on it.

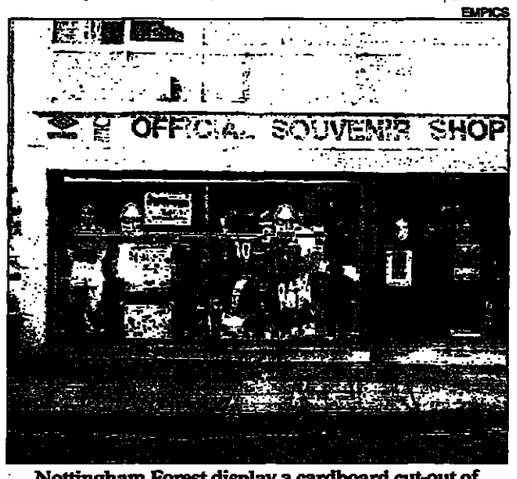
'You could go from cradle to grave wearing nothing but Manchester United gear, but at quite a price'

HOWARD BARLOW



Jane Davies, manager of the megastore, along with diminutive supporting cast in United colours

EMPICS



Nottingham Forest display a cardboard cut-out of Stuart Pearce among the stock in the club shop

Hendrie's hat-trick helps to keep Boro in clear

Burnley 0
Middlesbrough 3

BY PETER BALL

MIDDLESBROUGH confirmed their growing reputation as the best team in the first division by going six points clear at the top yesterday afternoon. A hat-trick by their leading scorer, John Hendrie, accounted for Burnley and gave Middlesbrough their first double of the season.

Wolves' defeat at Reading leaves Middlesbrough going into the hectic Christmas period with a significant advantage. With Hendrie a constant threat, Moore giving a precocious performance and Robson returning to add authority after an absence of 14 games, they bear the stamp of champions.

Burnley's cause, already less than convincing, was fatally undermined by having to play for the last 40 minutes with ten men after Wayne Dowell had been sent off for a second bookable offence. Robson, the Middlesbrough player-manager, who had already received one yellow card, might have followed him for a lunge at Heath as passions boiled in the second period. Otherwise it was a more than satisfactory return for Robson.

Robson's forward bursts may not be as powerful as they were, but his influence was visible as he guided his players around from his central position in midfield.

"We haven't seen much of Robson so far," a young Burnley fan in the press box remarked after 13 minutes. He could hardly have timed his remark worse as Robson at that moment received Cox's throw-in, spotted Hendrie's diagonal run and floated in a perfect through-pass for Hendrie to clip it past the advancing Beresford.

Hendrie had already missed one chance, hitting Beresford's legs from close range, and he could have increased Middlesbrough's lead almost immediately as Moore released him with a clever pass. But having cut inside Parkinson, he dragged his shot wide and the chance was gone.

With Moore a major influence, the visitors looked the more dangerous side. The young Irishman is maturing impressively, his instant control complemented by an increasing awareness of the play around him.

Parkinson's penetrating runs offered Burnley their best hope, but they lacked any threat through the middle until the arrival of Gayle, the big former Birmingham player, after Dowell's dismissal.

For a time it looked as if sheer fervour might get Burnley back into the game, but just as Middlesbrough looked to be rocking, they scored. A quick break exposed the Burnley defence and although the chance initially went begging, Moore's little pass put Hendrie clear in the six-yard box, and he rounded Beresford to put the ball home.

That virtually ended the match as a contest, although Heath hit the bar on one break. But Hendrie had the last word again. Moore supplied the pass as he broke clear to complete his hat-trick in injury time.

BURNLEY (4-1-2-1-2): M Beresford — G Parkinson, S Davis, M Winstanley, W Dowell — J Hoyland — A Harper (sub: J Gayle, 53min), A Randall — A Heath — L Robinson (sub: J Mullin, 66), D Eyres.
MIDDLESBROUGH (3-4-3): A Miller — S Vickers, D Whyte, N Pearson — N Cox, R Mustoe, B Robson, C Fleming — P Wilkinson, J Hendrie, A Moore.
Referee: P Wright.

STIN SLEE



Lucy Harrison, of Brighouse, takes careful aim

Brighouse band together to produce net gain

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

Motivate, organise and improve. A good teacher, whether of sport, science or sociology, can do all three — just like two part-time members of the PE staff at Brighouse High School in West Yorkshire.

Barbara Littlewood and Christine Firth pass this three-fold litmus test with flying colours. In charge of netball at Brighouse, a mixed comprehensive in the Pennine foothills flanking the M62, they are responsible for an almost embarrassing domination of the Calderdale area schools netball league.

In the past five years their girls (teams ranging from under-12s to under-19s) have either won (90 per cent) or been runners-up in every Calderdale league and tournament. This season their teams have played 25 league matches and won 25. Brighouse under-19s and under-15s have each won the only tournament in which they have taken part.

Remarkably, neither Littlewood nor Firth played netball seriously, both having preferred hockey. But, when I watched them coach the under-15s and under-13s during their lunch-break last week, it was clear they are born teachers. Coaching ability aside, the pair willingly sacrifice lunchtimes, early evenings and Saturdays to their netballers.

At least the rewards have been tangible — a gradual accumulation of skill over the last ten years prompting Brighouse's present dominance.

A big advantage has been that, unusually in Calderdale, the school benefits from a sports centre. Featuring a giant, multipurpose sports hall, the facility is shared with the local community. Last Thursday at 1pm, the rota read indoor netball practice. Such luxury must have played a big part in Brighouse's girls stealing a march on their rivals.

Situated in *Last of the Summer Wine* country, the Calderdale area contains some wonderful walks but its winter weather is not conducive to playing outdoor netball in flimsy PE kit.

Memories of shivering on school netball courts — by the sixth form I had gladly swapped lunchtimes wearing a wing attack bib for the comparative cosiness of writing history A-level essays against the clock — must have ended many a promising relationship with the sport.

But, unlike my old school in Bedford, Brighouse is able to nurture netballers who like the game but hate wind and rain. Not that there is anything soft about Littlewood's young ladies. Discipline is the keyword at Brighouse High.

"We are committed and organised," Littlewood said. "The girls know where they are with us. We set practice times and stick to them religiously. The girls know they have got to come or they'll lose their places."

Her protégées come from a cross-section of family backgrounds and reflect the spectrum of academic ability. But when it comes to netball practice, they are united by a common aim.

It is a regime they seem to relish. So much so that the sixth-form girls, who occupy a building away from the main school, have set up their own independent team, The Smarties.

"They've organised sponsorship and travel for themselves," Firth said proudly. "They challenged the sixth-form boys to a match the other day and beat them 22-20. The boys are talking of starting their own team now."

Although Brighouse girls enjoy playing football as part of their PE curriculum, the boys have so far shunned donning netball bibs. Netball may be a popular participation sport for Australian and New Zealand males, but it is a vastly different story in this macho corner of Yorkshire.

No matter, the girls are enjoying hogging the sporting limelight. Perks include regular holiday tours, most recently to the Isle of Man last summer. Teams convened from all over the country but, surprise, surprise, Brighouse still triumphed.

And contrary to what some educationalists think, winning is important, just like the adrenalin rush involved in competing. As Simone Johnson, a member of the under-13 team, said: "We enjoy the competition. It keeps us fit and the marking space, positioning and running is good for you mentally. It makes you think."

Competing also nurtures relationships and Firth praises the families who regularly turn out to cheer the girls on. "We've got one grandfather who has come to every game for years. We recently presented him with a medal."

All the available evidence suggests Littlewood and Firth deserve a couple of medals of their own. In the meantime, they will carry on with the gold-star service — motivating, organising, improving.

Challinor's penalties take former cup winners into fifth round

Harlequins survive on lean fare

Harlequins 9
Saracens 5

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

AFTER the Lord Mayor's Show of rich representative rugby over the past month, Harlequins and Saracens provided a diet of thin gruel at the Stoop Memorial ground on Saturday, grinding out 80 unambitious minutes before Harlequins, twice cup winners, made their way into the fifth-round draw of the Pilkington Cup today.

There were no pretensions to grandeur on a grey, drizzly day, yet Harlequins' victory, by three penalty goals to a try, may have a broader significance than merely seeing them into the next round of a competition with which they have enjoyed a long-standing love affair. With Dick Best now ensconced as director of rugby, they know they must return to basics before they can rediscover the flair for which they are known.

Harlequins fielded an untried team, with three newcomers in the back division, after a six-week period in which the club has played no competitive rugby and only three first-XV matches. They stripped their game to the bare essentials, mounting a holding operation against the wind, then kicking for territory and relying on Saracens to make mistakes.

Brian Moore, their captain, was frank in his assessment. Had the game been played six weeks earlier, when Saracens' second division snowball was gathering pace and Harlequins were struggling, he would have been worried about the outcome. But at least his players competed for 80 minutes in a game not unlike the taut league encounters they have been losing.

"Our season begins again in the new year — at least I hope the players will look at it like that — and if we can pick the same players for more than one week, it will help," Moore said. "But that's unlikely, given the vagaries of this season."


Challinor: three penalties


Tunningley: four misses

By which he means the international demands made of him and others, and the persistent injuries which, last weekend, removed 12 of their 42-strong squad from contention. Emphasising the point, Boyle sustained a knee injury that could be damaged ligaments, and Snow, the young lock, undergoes a groin operation today.

So Harlequins breathe a sigh of relief and proffer thanks to Challinor for kicking his goals. The stand-off half kicked three of four while Tunningley was missing four of four for Saracens and is eagerly awaiting the return from Australia of the West Country kicking guru, Dave Alred, who has done so much for Rob Andrew this season. Challinor has had the occasional tutorial from Alred but now seeks more, though if Alred commits himself to the Australian squad — which appears to want him more than England — he may not get it. Challinor's third penalty killed off Saracens. For an hour they had territory and utterly dependable lineout ball from Langley and Diprose; they even managed to break the advantage line twice.

Yet, if Harlequins were a team lacking confidence, Saracens ran without conviction, handling and passing so poorly that they offered no threat behind the scrum.

Nor did they offer any excuse for a disappointing display. "You can't expect to concede lineouts and penalties in the opposition 22 and win," Mark Evans, their coach, said. "Although we played with a lot of spirit and were technically better in the second half, by then we were chasing the game." Saracens could discover no pattern, either behind the scrum or in linking together their justifiably acclaimed back row, whose activities found an apt counter in the industrious Sheasby.

Yet, at 6-0, they knew a converted try would give them the lead; Challinor's kick from halfway destroyed that hope and, although they forced Wilson over from a tapped penalty in the final minute, Harlequins' superiority was greater than the margin suggests. They might have scored two tries within two minutes but Glenister ignored Staples and O'Leary turned inside.

Brian Davies, the captain of Saracens, compared the game to that between London and the Midlands, whose tactical approach in winning the divisional title was much criticised. "They resorted to holding back, knocking people over, blocking — typical first division stuff," Davies said.

In fact, each side cancelled out the other's areas of strength — the back row and lineout — leaving the way open for the opportunist. On the day, it was Challinor.

SCORERS: Harlequins: Penalty goals: Challinor (3) Saracens: Try: Wilson.
HARLEQUINS: J Staples; D O'Leary, W Carling, L Boyle, S Bromley; P Challinor, R Kitchin; J Leonard, B Moore, A Mullins, R Jenkins, P Thresher, W Davison, M Pepper, C Sheasby. Boyle replaced by R Glenister (40 min); Thresher replaced by A Snow (80).
SARACENS: A Tunningley; M Gregory, J Buckton, S Ravenscroft, P Harries; A Lee, B Davies; R Andrews, G Botterman, S Wilson, A Diprose, M Langley, J Green, R Hill, B Crawley.
Referee: S Piercy (Yorkshire).

Eves fails to secure knockout but wins on points

Bristol 41
Nottingham 10

By Bryan Stiles

ALMOST everything revolves around Derek Eves, the captain, at Bristol. He is usually found in the thick of the forward battles, providing the scoring passes for others, scoring himself and — on Saturday in this Pilkington Cup-tie — demonstrating how to throw a left hook.

Nigel Malik, the intended victim, was slightly out of range and felt only the draught of the swipe, but it brought an apprehensive roar from the crowd in the new stand, who must have thought Eves was about to be sent off. But the referee had missed the incident and, on consulting a touch judge, let off Eves with a wigging and, for good measure, penalised Malik for foul play — far from the punishment the home supporters were dreading.

Without Eves, what would become of Bristol? Eves promptly showed them what they might miss. He threw himself into the fray with even greater vigour and a minute later was completing a hat-trick of tries, then creating another for his back-row partner, Ian Patten.

Eves threw the punch because Malik was illegally impeding him at a maul. It was almost a reflex action but, on reflection, he might think it was not the kind of image he should be creating as the captain of the England Emerging Players team.

Nottingham's hopes of causing an upset lasted all of two minutes. They had taken the lead in the third minute after a well-worked tap-penalty routine had opened up a gap in the Bristol defence. Langley, their sturdy lock, was unstoppable as he surged through to score. Ian Stent converted and the Bristol crowd were in a state of shock.

Nottingham languish in the lower half of the Courage Clubs Championship second division, while Bristol lie fourth in the first division. It took only two more minutes for the difference in class to show. Gavin Sharp, the right wing, turned up in the centre to initiate a move that sent in Eves near the posts.

Tainton converted and kicked two penalties as the Nottingham pack transgressed trying to hold back the dominant Bristol forwards and Bristol moved smoothly into a comfortable lead.

They rounded off the first half with a pushover try and who came up with the ball from the bottom of the pile of bodies? The ubiquitous Eves, of course. Tainton converted to put his side 20-7 in front.

Nottingham got away to an encouraging start to the second half, Stent kicking a penalty goal to reduce the arrears, but it was almost all one-way traffic after that, with Eves, naturally, scoring the first of Bristol's three second-half tries. It was the product of a powerful burst out of a crowd of defenders and an uncatchable dash for the line.

A minute later he raced through again and, as he was tackled near the posts, lobbed a pass to Patten, who touched down under the bar. John finished the try-scoring with a scything run through the defence to complete Nottingham's misery.

SCORERS: Bristol: Tries: Eves (3), Patten, John. Conversions: Tainton (5). Penalty goals: Tainton (2). Nottingham: Try: Langley. Conversion: Stent Penalty goal: Stent.

BRISTOL: D Bennett; G Sharp, R Knibbs, D Wring, D John; M Tainton, K Bracken; P Smith, M Regan, D Hinkins, R Armstrong, S Shaw, A Blackmore. D Eves, I Patten.

NOTTINGHAM: M Gallagher; R Byrom, J Webster, B Musto, A Smallwood; I Stent, D Roberts; M Fraer, D West, A Jackson, N Davies, C Gray, B Langley, G Rees, N Malik.
Referee: S Womersley (Huntingdon).

Leicester's figures add up to rout of Blackheath

Leicester 56
Blackheath ..... [illegible]

By Peter Bills

STATISTICS, as wily politicians constantly demonstrate, can be manipulated. But the following figures do not mislead: clean lineout possession, Leicester 15 Blackheath five; penalties and frees awarded, Leicester 24 Blackheath 16; successful kicks at goal, Leicester 12 Blackheath two.

As Tony Russ, the Leicester director of rugby, said: "There was not a route possibility of an upset in this match." That knowledge implicitly accepted by both teams, dictated the manner of their approach. Leicester sought a game plan which was much width as possible, Blackheath attempted a damage-limitation exercise. Neither side fully achieve its objective.

Leicester did score five tries, the best of which was a beautiful piece of running by Rory Underwood that cleaved apart the Blackheath defence. But five tries from such a feast of possession was a modest return, not that this was entirely Leicester's fault.

Blackheath, in the modern way, set up operations to be usually beyond the offside line. The referee handed out 40 penalties or free kicks, most for offside. It could have been over 60. The lack of space stifled Leicester's ambitions so that they were forced reluctantly to resort to kicks at goal. In the midst of a barrage of 28 points gained from six penalty goals and five conversions, Harris passed 1,000 points in Leicester.

Their power overwhelmed the third division club. After Leicester had dominated the opening 25 minutes with a series of sweeping attacks and kicks that gave them a 23 lead, the Blackheath centre Richard Smith, suddenly intercepted a Leicester pass. It was a shock to see a Blackheath threequarter in possession. Alas, poor Smith was wrapped up in a tackle by Dean Richards, who instantly relieved him of the ball to instigate another Leicester attack.

Nothing could have symbolised the difference between the sides. Blackheath, second in their division, are greatly improved side this season. Much of that revival has been initiated by the excellent young half back Friday and Howard, the latter an England under-21 player. What the heart longed to see was those two behind the Leicester pack. Friday, gutsy and brave, battled gamely behind a beaten pack, and Howard demonstrated some lovely touches. Coyne tackled spiritedly, but up front it was an unequal contest.

Back's try, four minutes into the second half, after a bewildering series of raids by Leicester, made it 33-6. But Blackheath kept going and Ridgeway's try, from a lineout tap for Leicester by Johnson, that went astray, gave them encouragement. Eventually, though, Leicester further exposed some tiring legs by playing at a pace unknown in Blackheath's world.

SCORERS: Leicester: Tries: Pountney, Back, Underwood, Hackney, Converters, Harris (5). Penalty goals: Harris (6). Blackheath: Try: Ridgeway. Penalty goal: Howard (2).

LEICESTER: J Liley; S Hackney, D Edwards, S Potter, R Underwood; J Harris, A Kardooni; G Rowntree, R Cockell, D Garforth, C Tarbuck, M Johnson, T Smith, N Back, D Richards. Kardooni replaced by J Hamilton (53min), Harris replaced by J Murphy (70).

BLACKHEATH: S Burns, M Grith, D Coyne, R Smith, D Griffiths; S Howd, M Friday; J Taylor, C Ridgeway, M Stent, D Walton, G Furneaux, J Sampson, T Toth, M Harris.
Referee: C White (RFU).

Downfall of Gloucester engineered by Jackson

By David Hands

ALL but two of the first-division clubs go into the fifth-round draw of the Pilkington Cup today, but while the demise of West Hartlepool at the hands of Orrell was predictable, that of Gloucester was less so. Yet Wakefield, who won 19-9, have always been doughty cup fighters and proved so again.

Mobility has always been the key for Yorkshire and its leading clubs. So while Gloucester could dominate the lineout through West and Sims, they could find no way through the Wakefield tackling and the second-division club, growing in confidence, carried the day with two second-half tries.

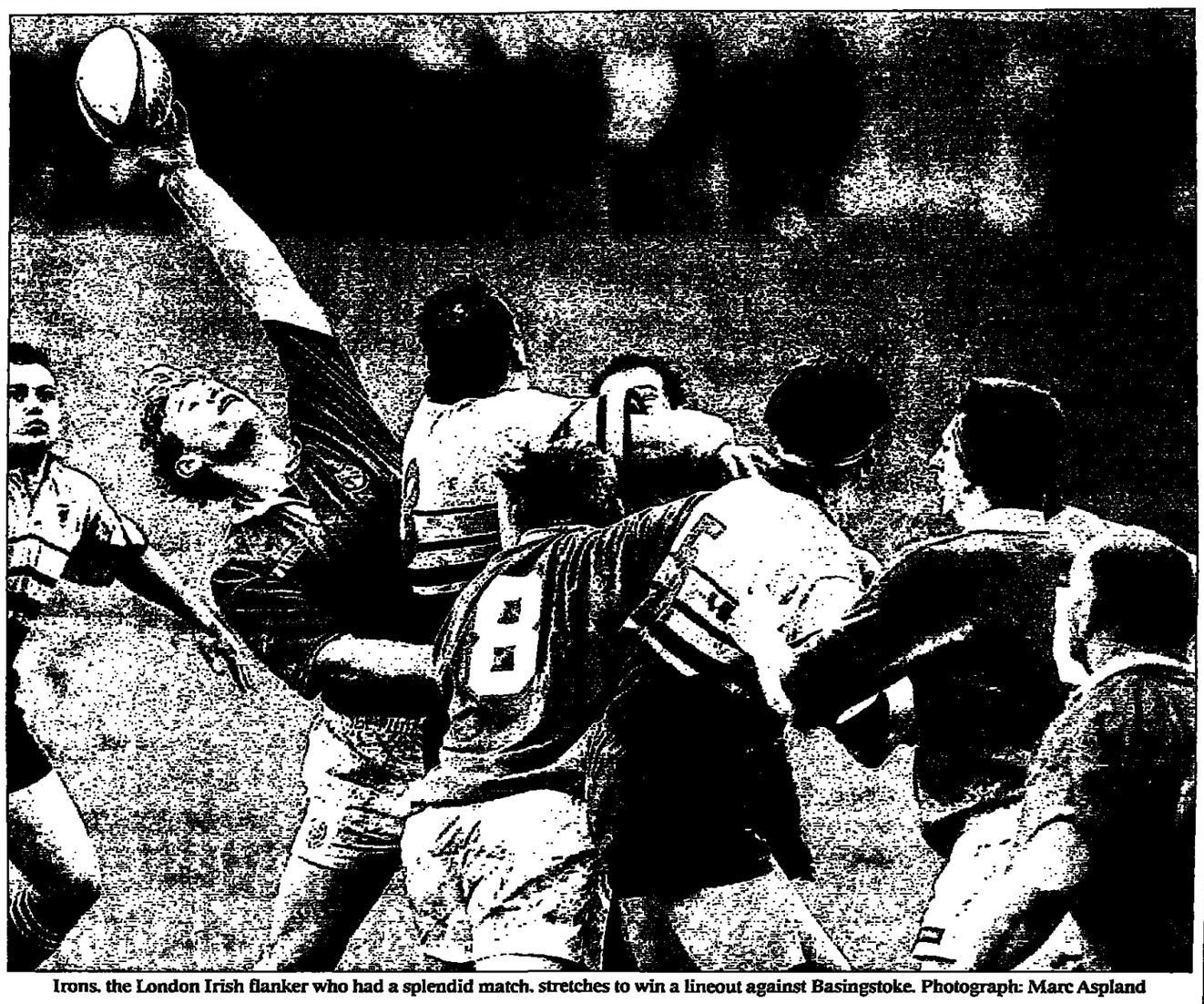
Gloucester led 6-3 at the interval, Mapletoft kicking two penalties to Jackson's one. But Jackson, the Wakefield captain and full back, stamped his mark on the match by adding a further penalty, then supporting Metcalfe's break for the try; he was also part of the move which gave Thompson a further try, leaving only an exchange of dropped goals between Kimber, for Gloucester, and Petyt, to round off the scoring.

Aspatria, too, waved a fervent northern banner. Five years ago Wasps came away relieved to have won there and on Saturday Bedford, of the third division, came nowhere near after losing 32-6. Aspatria lurk in the bottom half of division four but ran in five tries, two of them by Story, their long-serving lock.

Wasps themselves, returning to the north, put paid to Newcastle Gosforth 58-12, with Rob Andrew again in rich scoring vein. There were three tries in his total of 26 points.

At least Lydney brought joy to Gloucestershire, by beating Sandal 17-5. The links between Sandal and Wakefield are strong, and the Northern first division leaders led 5-0 through Turton's try before Lydney came through with a try by Holford and a penalty try.

Full rugby results and details ..... Page 30


Irons, the London Irish flanker who had a splendid match, stretches to win a lineout against Basingstoke. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Underdogs bark up wrong tactical tree

Basingstoke 3
London Irish 18

By Jack Bailey

BEING cast in the role of Goliath is relished by nobody, least of all London Irish. Memories of defeat by Southend in the Pilkington Cup still rankle, and they must have been delighted when Basingstoke, so to speak, threw away the sling and shot that had served them so well in the early stages of this fourth-round tie and engaged almost exclusively at close quarters.

A first-minute penalty had set up Basingstoke. For a while they looked as if they had it all worked out. With a strong wind behind them they played as the situation demanded. Mark Boobbyer kicked high and often, taking play deep into Irish territory. Rowledge, who had already succeeded with the first penalty, sensibly tried two more from long distance which dropped just short.

The Irish were largely penned in and in these conditions "Stoke", as they are known locally, needed to keep hammering away with more of the same. Then they pushed the Irish scrum backwards on a couple of occasions and were so overcome with the headiness of it all that they even chose to scrummage or take tap penalties from penalty awards within range of the posts.

Basingstoke needed as many points as possible in the first half. Taking on the Irish forwards with bullocking runs close to the scrum was not the answer. They were going nowhere against fierce Irish tackling. Kicking for position, then moving the ball wide, was their only profitable method. Instead,


Hall: decisive score

they were sucked in by the notion that they had the measure of the Irish up front.

That they did not was borne out by the Irish lead of 7-3 at half-time. It would have been more had Owen Cobbe, who had an otherwise excellent game at stand-off half, been able to deal with the gusting wind. Three penalties, from 30 yards or so, went begging, although Cobbe did convert Colin Hall's try, scored shortly before the interval when a brisk passing movement on the blind side ended with the 16½-stone lock selling an improbable dummy and crashing over.

The match, effectively, was won. "Stoke" battled on but rarely broke out of their half. With the wind at his back, Cobbe kicked two more penalties, besides initiating several brisk threequarter movements, kept out only by desperate tackling.

As if to prove that being pushed around a few times by Basingstoke in the tight was either a temporary lapse or a deliberate ruse to encourage their opponents to keep the ball close, the Irish scored a classic push-over try. It went, fittingly, to Phil Irons, who did as much as anyone to ensure that the team from the second division beat their game, but tactically suspect, opponents.

SCORERS: Basingstoke: Penalty: Rowledge. London Irish: Tries: Hall, Irons. Conversion: Cobbe. Penalty goals: Cobbe (2).
BASINGSTOKE: D Rowledge, M Fawcett, T Jones, M John, N Pattison, M Boobbyer, J Palmer; D Robson, I Lillington, J Ford, D Bott, G Hurst, P Hawkins, M Culley, A Hill
LONDON IRISH: R Hennessy; K Street, R Henderson, P Bell, S O'Sullivan; O Cobbe, T Ewington; J Fitzpatrick, D Spokes, G Halpin, P Irons, I Jameson, C Hall, C Bird, P Neary.
Referee: A Rowden.

Relentless Bath brush Scots aside

London Scottish 6
Bath 31

By Barry Trowbridge

ONE of the qualities that has characterised Bath's supremacy of domestic rugby in the past ten years or so has been the ability to stifle their opponents' game when their own has not been quite on song.

At Twickenham in May, they did just that to Leicester. They launched barely a handful of attacks, yet won the try count 2-1 and collected the national knock-out trophy for the eighth time in 11 seasons. At the Athletic Ground on Saturday, where they began their defence of the Pilkington Cup against London Scottish, the same pattern was forming.

Indeed, after 50 minutes, with the score at 6-12, there was all to play for, but as if to order — though more likely prompted by a collective realisation that the ferocious early pace had taken its toll on their hosts — Bath increased the tempo as one. Forwards became as eager for the ball as backs, and within ten minutes they put three tries on the board and had a fourth, potentially the best of the lot, correctly ruled out for Jeremy Guscott, who had chipped into space, going offside beyond the try-line.

Having seen them contribute so much to the first half, it was difficult not to feel sorry for London Scottish. Had Nick Robinson been on target with a couple of penalty kicks before Jon Callard put Bath ahead, their resolve may have lasted even longer. Scottish, though, do not enjoy the luxury of being able to haul the likes of Marcus Olsen — in only his fifth game in the first XV but driving his pack relentlessly — and Eric Peters out of their reserves, and they were exposed too often in the centre by the pace of any and all of the Bath backs.

They also had at least one big man too few in the lineouts. There, for Bath, Haag and Reed were handful enough, but behind them Hall had an outstanding game in both provision and support, and when Dawe threw even longer, Peters cleaned up the tail at will. With victory assured, Bath tried their utmost to put Geoghegan in for a score, Catt's torpedo passing often opening the way and adding a frightening new dimension to their play.

So, with Guscott arguably already back to his best and the squabble for places — Adebayo, Sleightholme, Sanders, Redman, Ojomoh and Clarke were all missing on Saturday — guaranteed to keep everybody at the Recreation Ground on top of his game, it is hard to see who can stop them collecting another cup and league double come the spring.

For the record, Tony Swift's try — Bath's third — was his 23rd in the competition; Callard's 21 points went almost unnoticed.

SCORERS: London Scottish: Penalty goals: Walker (2). Bath: Tries: Callard, Swift, penalty try. Conversions: Callard (2). Penalty goals: Callard (4).
LONDON SCOTTISH: N Robinson; A Watson, D Millard, R Eriksson, S Pearson, M Walker, K Troup; D Signorini, B Gilchrist, P Burnell, I Dixon, R Scott, A Nisbet, S Holmes, I Morrison
BATH: J Callard; A Swift, P de Glanville, J Guscott, S Geoghegan; M Catt, M Olsen; D Hilton, G Dawe, V Ubogu, A Robinson, M Haag, A Reed, J Hall, E Peters.
Referee: D Chapman (Yorkshire).

Waterloo have to win battle twice

Rotherham 19
Waterloo 21

By Christopher Irvine

AGAINST opponents with the best league record of any English club and the most predatory side in the four national divisions who average 35 points a match this season, there was an argument, albeit somewhat churlish, that Waterloo performed a giant-killing act.

Beating Rotherham is by no means easy. In the league, they have lost just nine times in 82 games, and they have won promotion in four of the past six seasons from the depths of the North East first division to the national fourth division. Turning round 21-0 ahead, Waterloo obviously wondered what all the fuss was about. Then they found out, as the slayers very nearly slipped on their own sword.

Two old lags in the freshly built stand waxed lyrical about the giant tin bath they used half a century ago. They could not recall Clifton Lane, still something of a social club with rugby pitch attached, so heaving. Success has aroused the interest of a town that, until a few years ago, paid little attention to rugby.

Close on 2,000 held their breath on Saturday as a vivid and climactic fourth-round Pilkington Cup tie just died on Rotherham. From a grinding and creaking 25-yard rolling maul, determination had its reward in a deliberate scrum collapse by Waterloo and a converted penalty try in the 77th minute.

It was the last that the relieved second division side saw of opponents they appeared to have killed off in the opening nine minutes when Rotherham were twice carved open down the right by Wright and Ireland.

Putting a marker on the elusive Craig in the centre cut off Waterloo's main point of attack, yet not their scoring rhythm as Swindells banged over a couple of penalty goals and Ryan a dropped goal. Waterloo's lead, though, hardly reflected the balance of play in the opening half and one of the old lags took heart, over medicinal brandy in Rotherham playing down the slope towards their favoured end in the second.

The wind blew and Rotherham went with it. Some of their play was hardly subtle. Waterloo became complacent and were no longer able to combat the charges of West and Dudley. As many chances went begging as were taken but, gradually, the boot of Worrall dragged the home side back into contention.

With three successive restarts failing to go ten yards, some of the pressure on Waterloo was self-inflicted. Plant was as precise with his line-kicking as a dropped goal that preceded Rotherham's ill-merited try. In terms of territory and possession, the visitors were well-beaten. A little class ended up going a long way.

SCORERS: Rotherham: Try: penalty try. Conversion: Worrall. Penalty goals: Worrall (3). Dropped goal: Plant.
Waterloo: Tries: Wright, Ireland. Conversion: Swindells. Penalty goals: Swindells (2). Dropped goal: Ryan.
ROTHERHAM: D Breakwell; P Scott, T Knox, T Tutt; M Dawson; K Plant, S Worrall; S Bunting, T Bayer, R Wareham. N Harris, J Dudley, J Brooksbank, C Vest, R Selkirk.
WATERLOO: S Swindells; A Handley, C Bibby, M Gp, S Greenhalgh; N Ryan, S Wright; M Becket, Donon, S Turner, P Ashcroft, S Fletcher, N Allott, T Ireland, B [illegible].
Referee: J Pearson (Durham).

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Christie's cunning may dispel host of South African doubts

By Dan Retief



For a brief but blessed period, South Africa's rugby players can amuse themselves playing touch on the beach, honing their golf, watching cricket — and dreaming of World Cup glory may also occur to some of them wonder whether Kitch Christie, their coach, is an amateur psychologist of the first order.

The players left Britain at the start of this month genuinely disappointed that their tour had ended in defeat by the Barbarians. They thought they had played badly; that they had failed to change their tactics. They resented the fact that they had lost, that the feat of beating Scotland and Wales had been tarnished.

Their frustration was increased by their homecoming at Jan Smuts Airport in Johannesburg, which may have also endorsed the view that South Africa lacks the logistical efficiency to host the World Cup. Baggage collection was chaotic, the arrivals hall was choked with happy supporters and a number of desperately tired players missed their connections to Durban and Cape Town. As always, there were assurances that it would be better by the time of the World Cup, now less than six months away.

But what if Christie's approach to the tour finale turns out to have been deliberate? There was an undercurrent of dissatisfaction that he had eased up during the last week of the tour, but Christie himself was suspiciously unfussed. Could it be that the coach wanted his team knocked back a peg or two after the euphoria of winning its first overseas series since the end of isolation?

Christie broke up the XV he had discovered that incredible 70-point day in Swansea and persisted with André Joubert as the first-choice goalkicker when the best place-kicker in the team, Gavin Johnson, was on the field. Certainly, the reminder of defeat — of South African forwards struggling for primary possession, of lineout tactics going awry, of an inability to cope with a team prepared to match their physical aggression — will enable Christie to create a more vital and immediate mood when the 48-strong squad, named last week, comes together in February.

Christie fears that the scope and tension of the World Cup may overwhelm his team of relative novices. "It will be the biggest thing any one of us has ever experienced," he said. "The biggest thing ever in South Africa. I don't think any of us has even begun to appreciate what pressure we're going to be under."

It is no surprise that Christie's call for his squad to be allowed to rest from provincial preparations has met with some derision: as Transvaal's coach, he was notoriously unsympathetic to the national cause. But he has pinpointed the team's weaknesses: the middle of the lineout, the absence of a "brainy" midfield player and poor kicking, tactically and at goal. Two of those problems may be overcome once Brendan Venter, the Free State centre, has recovered from injury and Hannes Strydom, the Transvaal lock, proves his fitness.

Christie, though, will also watch with interest the recuperation of Jannie de Beer, the young stand-off half who has just transferred from Free State to Transvaal: he possesses the firepower of Naas Botha allied to the attacking instincts of Hennie le Roux, with whom he is now in direct competition.

South Africa's selectors may have erred by not continuing the experiment of playing Ollie le Roux at hooker while touring Britain. Under the tutelage of Uli Schmidt, le Roux might have become the heavy, ball-playing hooker that is becoming essential.

Nonetheless, if queries remain over the infrastructure, there is little doubt here that the rugby will be successful during the World Cup. South Africa's top five venues are equal to, or better than, any of the main overseas stadiums and the auxiliary venues are excellent. There is optimism, too, over the national team's performance — though the players may be holding thumbs that all their matches will be controlled by Irish referees.

☐ *Dan Retief is the rugby correspondent of* The Johannesburg Sunday Times.

Tabard fail to cut loose Richmond's cup lifeline

Richmond	24
Tabard	16

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

TABARD'S popular stroll through the lower reaches of the Pilkington Cup came to a muddy end at Richmond Athletic Ground yesterday. Yet they made light of the difference a division and a half between themselves and their hosts, making it all the more ironic that they should perish almost at their own hands.

It is not as though Tabard, named some forty years ago for their association with a public house on London Bridge, have been dominating matters in division five south, where they sit in mid-table. But their conviction was far greater than Richmond's, whose season in the third division has brought them the bleak return of eight defeats from eight starts and a decline in confidence to match.

The cup has been their lifeline, bringing three of their season's seven victories and allowing them to keep a competitive flag flying bravely. But it is a sign of a club in trouble when they can establish a decent lead on the back of complete domination of a vital area of the game, the lineout, yet still construct so little. Had Tabard possessed a much height and ball-winning capacity, they would surely have made more of it.

Two of the better moments of this fourth-round tie — won by Richmond by a goal, a try and four penalty goals to a goal and three penalties — came from Dave Robjohns, Tabard's powerful centre, who slid through defenders only to find that his own support was nowhere to be seen.

Much will have been made of Chris Harrison's decision to award a penalty try to Richmond midway through the first half. Churchman's opening penalty had been overtaken by two from Gregory, Tabard paying in part for a somewhat indisciplined opening which earned a couple of lectures and a stern finger wagging for Trippick.

If Churchman managed, from the second of two dire resorts, to give Richmond the benefit of a scrum on halfway, from which Gregory flashed into largely untenanted open side in quite the slickest move that his team managed all afternoon. Greenwood worked hard to get into position at the side, but Gregory elected to step ahead instead, the ball crossing the dead ball line before Greenwood could reach it.

However, the referee decided that Greenwood had been pulled back and the cushion that the penalty try provided was crucial to Richmond's hopes of remaining in the competition. Even so Tabard, victors over Sherborne, Weston-super-Mare, and High Wycombe in earlier rounds, worked their way back into contention through the goal-kicking of Churchman, their leading points scorer. From an interval deficit of 16-3, they came within a converted try of Richmond thanks to their steadiness in the tackle and Richmond's capacity to turn ball over. Had Churchman managed better than 50 per cent of his penalty attempts, the gap would have been narrower still.

Much of the difference between first and third-division rugby lies in speed of thought and, from this visit, one suspects that this is why Richmond have lost five of their games by six points or fewer. They possess talent yet do not make the morst of it; nor is their decision making of the highest order.

They were deeply relieved when the bearded Della-Savina scored their second try, though Tabard will still be cursing themselves for letting him in. The visitors won a rare lineout on their own 22 but the unfortunate Wood dropped Andrews's pass and Della-Savina applied his boot to the ball, following up to seize the bounce and score. Although Gregory's conversion hit the post, Tabard were left with only five minutes to recoup some consolation, which they promptly did to the raucous applause of those who have followed them faithfully from leafy Hertfordshire to the wilds of Dorset, Buckinghamshire and here, Middlesex.

Robjohns' penetrating run brought Tabard their position in Richmond's 22 and Malone, the former Saracens lock who now leads Tabard, was over the line but brought back for the award of a penalty to his team. His disappointment mattered little since, from the tap, Churchman put Hewson over for a try which was as well deserved as it was in vain.

SCORERS: Richmond: Tries: Della-Savina, penalty try. Conversion: Gregory. Penalty goals: Gregory (4). Tabard: Try: Hewson. Conversion: Churchman. Penalty goals: Churchman (3).

RICHMOND: J Gregory; P Greenwood, L Davies, M Hutton, S Brown; J Hood, B Short; J Foster, A Cuthbert, O Sinclair, R Gavin, P Carr, G Sage, P Della-Savina, D Thompson.

TABARD: G Hewson; P Wood, D Robjohns, A Elliot, R Sent; N Churchman, S Andrews; J Lowde, P Trippick, D Warner, S Armstrong, R Malone, G Sioleme, M Hanson, M Richard. *Sent replaced by* G West (54min).

Referee: C Harrison (East Midlands).

PHOTOGRAPHS: MARC ASPLAND



Burns, the England captain, attempts to force her way through the Holland defence but is blocked by de Greef, the Dutch full back

England take advantage of margin for error

England	30
Holland	5

By Oliver Holt

BIG LOUIS the barman was rushed off his feet. The players poured out of the changing rooms, enveloped by steam, and headed for the long bar looking out over the pitch where the faces of past club presidents gazed down from the wall. It was one of the smoke-filled rooms you read about in tales of power and male prejudice and it was thronged with women.

Louis had only seen anything like it once before. There was a women's rugby A international at the Wasps ground in north west London last year, but this was the Real McCoy. Still, he treated it as routine. There is nothing novel about women's rugby any more: England's win in the World Cup in Edinburgh, in April, saw to that. After establishment, though, comes consolidation and progress.

That process began under the light of a watery sun here yesterday when the survivors of the team that beat Russia, Canada, France and the United States to win the world title played their first game since their triumph. Despite the disruption caused by the presence of five new caps, they coasted to a 30-5 victory over Holland.

It was not a game to banish the creeping cold with endless thrills. The 80 minutes were bedevilled by a series of handling errors and a glut of inconsequential rucks and misplaced passes. Still, a 30-5 victory on the back of a patchy performance is not bad and everyone, even the world champions, can have an off day.

What continues to irk team members, though, is the supercilious tone taken by some commentators. Some devote themselves to searches of northern England, supposedly a bastion of male prejudice, for the remnants of those who scorn the idea of women playing what has always been seen as a man's game; others continue to attempt comparison with men's rugby. Both approaches marginalise the players and demean women's rugby.

The idea of sport, after all, is to try to compete at the highest level, to compete fairly and to try to win. The 500 or more who braved the cold yesterday were rewarded by the sight of 15 England players, representing the pinnacle of their particular discipline.

That the level of skill on show here was below that of the men who play rugby was irrelevant. Few question the brilliance of Steffi Graf or compare her with Pete Sampras. Equally, any who bothered to watch could only admire the athleticism of the English captain, Gill Burns, the speed and trickery of Jacqui Edwards and the tackling ability of Suzie Appleby.



Wenn: courageous

Neither could anyone question the commitment and courage of Sarah Wenn, who started the game despite a bad nose injury, only to retire after 26 minutes.

Mills kicked a penalty to put England ahead in the eleventh minute and Coles atoned for an earlier error when she went over in the corner. Edwards, who had set up that try, scored the second herself five minutes after the interval.

Abbenbroek gave the Dutch some hope with a fine try midway through the second half but Burns put the match beyond doubt with England's third try, Stirrup adding a fourth in the last minute.

There are now more than 6,000 women playing rugby in Britain and the ground here yesterday was dotted with coats swearing allegiance to various clubs. Burns, happy with her first match as captain, was optimistic about the future of the game. "It was a bit of a scrappy match in parts," she said. "I think there were a few butterflies early on from the new caps. But it is behind them now and there is a lot for us to build on.

"This was the beginning of a new era for us after the World Cup. We are getting more and more coverage. We have made it beyond curious pieces on the women's pages to the point where we are forcing the game on to the sports pages. We can't worry about that too much, though, we just want to keep winning."

ENGLAND: J Mangham (Waterloo), N Ponsford (Clifton), E Scourfield (Leeds), S Wenn (Wasps), H Stirrup (Wasps); J Chambers (Richmond), H Clayton (Waterloo), G Burns (Waterloo), S Appleby (Novacastrians), D Mills (Richmond), A Coles (Saracens), A Wallace (Leeds), J Edwards (Blackheath), J Molyneux (Waterloo), H Hulme (Clifton). Wenn replaced by T Slivak (Richmond), 26min.

HOLLAND: L Schoone; S Veltkamp, M Hibma, M Van Den Hoger, A Van Wäveren; D Van den Berg, M Schmutzer; M Veldschotten, B Terpstra, E Lichtenbeld, K Abbenborek, H Van Mens, O De Bruin, G Hamilton, C De Greef.

Referee: J Fleming.

☐ A 62nd-minute try from Sandra Williamson gave Scotland a 5-0 victory over Wales in a women's rugby international at the Brewery Field, Bridgend, yesterday.

Sella makes amends as France beat improved Canadians

France	28
Canada	9

By Our Sports Staff

IN SPITE of the freezing conditions, a strange choice of venue and an even stranger kick-off time, France were comfortable winners against Canada at Besançon on Saturday. Their margin of victory may not have approached that of England's a week earlier, but this was a Canadian team more cohesive and resolute than the one that conceded 60 points at Twickenham.

The French know that comparisons will inevitably be made between the two performances, but the veteran centre, Philippe Sella, who scored the final try for the home side, was unconcerned. "Our goal was not to do better than England, but to play a solid match and win," he said.

Sella's performance, in his 102nd international, was outstanding. Both in attack and defence, against some powerful Canadian running, the centre inspired his team and went some way to expunging the bitter memory of his controversial dismissal in the match between these teams earlier this year. It was his break that led to a try for the full back, Sadourny, while twice he made openings upon which his colleagues were unable to capitalise.

Full rugby results and details ..... Page 30

Ian Birtwell, the Canada coach, was optimistic in his assessment. "It's disappointing to lose all our games but we know now we have the tools to compete with the best," he said. "We were competitive for a long time today."

With a further international against Scotland in the new year and a tough mini-tour in New Zealand at Easter, Birtwell knows that his charges must be more than just competitive if they are to make an impact on the World Cup next May.

SCORERS: France: Tries: Benetton, Sadourny, Sella. Conversions: Lacroix (2). Penalty goals: Lacroix (2). Dropped goal: Delaigue. Canada: Penalty goals: Rees (3).

FRANCE: J-L Sadourny (Colomiers); E N'Tamack (Toulouse), P Sella (Agen), T Lacroix (Dax), P Saint-André (Montferrand, capt), Y Delaigue (Toulon), G Accoceberry (Bègles-Bordeaux); L Bénézech (Racing), J-M Gonzalez (Beyonne), C Castillano (Toulouse), A Costes (Montferrand), O Merle (Montferrand), O Roumat (Dax), A Benazzi (Agen), P Benetton (Agen).

CANADA: D S Stewart (UBCOB); W Stanley (UBC), C Stewart (Rovigo), S D Gray (Kats), D C Lougheed (Toronto); G L Rees (Oxford University, capt); J D Graf (UBCOB); E Evans (IBM, Tokyo), K F Svoboda (Ajax Wanderers), D C Jackart (UBCOB), I Gordon (James Bay), M James (Burnaby Lake), N Hadley (Wasps), G I MacKinnon (Ex-Britannia Lions), C McKenzie (UBCOB). Svoboda replaced by M Cardinal (James Bay), 77min.

Referee: B Leask (Australia).

Resolven close to celebrated scalp

Resolven	6
Pontypool	13

By Gerald Davies

ABERCYNON did it on Saturday. So did Ystalyfera. And Rhondda. That is, they, the *hoi polloi* from the lower reaches of league rugby, did the business in the Swalec Cup against the supposed aristocrats of the Welsh game. Well, perhaps Abertillery and Penarth, the beaten teams, were the aristocrats before the meritocracy of the leagues came along. But they can hardly be thought of as such now as they flourish at the bottom end of the first and second division respectively.

Ystalyfera Rhondda go through to the fifth round to play Bridgend and have the benefit of playing at home while Abbeynon travel to Swansea. They could so easily have been joined by Resolven in what would have been the third giant-killing act of the day.

This is Peter Hain country. His house overlooks Vaughan Field and the clubhouse in the Neath valley. But the local Member of Parliament had departed for South Africa and was not there to see what a brave fight his constituents put up. He would have been proud of them but disappointed how victory eluded them so unkindly.

The day and the conditions were made for upsetting a team like Pontypool, who are not brimming over with confidence as they strive to remain in the first division. The weather is such a great leveller. The pitch was sticky and the strong wind blew downfield. Points seemed likely only to be scored in one period of 40 minutes while the other 40 would be spent stopping the other side from doing so.

Resolven's luck continued to hold as they won the toss and chose to defend in the first half. With very liberal interpretation of what constitutes legal support of the jumper in the lineout, Darren Davies, much shorter than his opposite number, the 6ft 9in Keith Stewart, the home team kept winning the ball. The visitors ended the half with two Jason Williams penalties.

There were perceptible smiles on every supporter's face at the interval with the prospect of the wind and the slope to come. They seemed justified. Within a quarter of an hour, David Williams had brought the scores level with two penalties and the game was now being played almost entirely in the Pontypool half. Not only that, three sweeping movements from Resolven must have caused many a visitor's heart to drop a beat as only a last ditch, finger-tip tackle stopped the home team crossing the line each time.

But sport is notorious for not giving the performers their due. Suddenly, after being so conscientious, Resolven retreated at a couple of mauls. From one of these, Gareth Taylor materialised to run unopposed for 30 metres and score the winning try. Jason Williams converted, leaving the home team to ponder how they had lost. They can now concentrate on promotion from the seventh division central.

SCORERS: Resolven: Penalty goals: D Williams (2). Pontypool: Try: G Taylor. Conversion: J Williams. Penalties: J Williams (2).

RESOLVEN: A Evans; A Overd, J Jarvies, R Brown, D Griffiths; D Williams, R Williams; D Stroud, Ced Evans, Colin Evans, A Hutchings, J Lewis, D Davies, L Richards, L Probert.

PONTYPOOL: E Armstrong; K Welker, L Jones, D Lynch, B Taylor; J Williams, M Hayler; J Crandon, R Thorne, J Jones, C Billen, L Mukk, K Stewart, L Isaac, G Taylor. Walker replaced by P Taylor, 58min; J Jones replaced by B Phillips, 30.

Referee: H Lewis (Pontypridd).

South suffer from lack of big men

North and Midlands	26
South	7

By Alan Lorimer

FOR TOO long it has been assumed that the Border region of Scotland will maintain the tradition of strong forward play that allowed the region to make life difficult for any touring side. That myth has been debunked, first by New Zealand last year, then by the Scottish Exiles at Murrayfield and now by North and Midlands, whose pack outclassed the Border forwards in the McEwan's inter-district championship match at Aberdeen on Saturday.

South officials and selectors were heard to complain — almost in unison — that they had never seen a South pack play so badly, but the truth is that South simply lack big forwards. Their below-par performance may have been self-made, but the more obvious conclusion is that North and Midlands played to their true potential. With three capped players in their pack and enormous experience among the other five forwards, North were bound to put another pack to the sword in some match. They did so on Saturday by winning the lineouts (where Campbell frequently outjumped Weir) by a huge margin, outrucking the South forwards and achieving an abnormally high number of turnovers in tackles.

The beneficiaries of North's big win will be their forwards seeking places in either the A or national teams. In terms of the Scotland team to play Canada, it would seem certain that Wainwright will be named. On Saturday, playing behind a winning front five, he showed his mobility and awareness by scoring two fine tries and contributing to North's lineout success.

On the other flank, McIvor put in yet another fine defensive display that should allow him to retain the No 6 position in the Scotland team. Benefiting from playing alongside two such experienced flankers is Flockhart, who not only scored the other North try but again showed how talented he is.

Behind the scrum, Harper, the Stirling scrum half, again impressed, notably with cover tackles on Weir and Joiner, the latter denied what seemed a certain try by Harper's well-timed intervention. There was an encouraging performance from Rouse at centre and at stand-off Newton contributed three penalty goals and a conversion and also kicked shrewdly from hand. With little worthwhile possession to exploit, South's back division spent a frustrating afternoon made worse by the departure in the last quarter of Stanger, who received a knock on the head. South, however, refused to leave Aberdeen with a blank scoreline and were rewarded for effort with a late try by Hay.

SCORERS: North and Midlands: Tries: Wainwright (2), Flockhart. Conversion: Newton. Penalty goals: Newton (3). South: Try: Hay. Conversion: Dode.

NORTH AND MIDLANDS: S Burns (Edinburgh Academicals); M Cousin (Dundee HSFP), P Rouse (Dundee HSFP), J Thomson (Kirkcaldy), F Swanson (Edinburgh Academicals); J Newton (Dundee HSFP), K Harper (Stirling County), J Manson (Dundee HSFP), M Scott (Dunfermline), D Herrington (Dundee HSFP), D McIvor (Edinburgh Academicals, capt), G Flockhart (Stirling County), R Wainwright (West Hartlepool). Thomson (Kirkcaldy) replaced by A Carruthers (Kirkcaldy), 34min; Herrington replaced by W Anderson (Kirkcaldy), 40.

SOUTH: M Dode (Gala); C Joiner (Melrose), A Stanger (Hawick), G Shiel (Melrose), K Duddon (Hawick); C Chalmers (Melrose, capt), B Redpath (Melrose); S McColm (Selkirk), J Hay (Hawick), D Lunn (Melrose), A Roxburgh (Kelso), R Brown (Melrose), G Weir (Melrose), J Amyes (Gala), R Kirkpatrick (Jed-Forest). Stanger replaced by S Nichol (Selkirk), 66min. Amos replaced by S Aitken (Melrose), 78.

Referee: J Fleming (Boroughmuir).

هكذا من الأصل

Dubacilla enters Kempton equation

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

DAVID NICHOLSON may be double-handed in his attempt to win the King George VI Chase at Kempton for the second year running on Boxing Day, with Dubacilla being pencilled in to join Barton Bank, last year's winner of the feature race.

"It will depend on the ground. I can't see her laying up with the rest of them around Kempton if the ground is good but, if it came up heavy, there is a possibility she would run," the champion trainer said yesterday.

Dubacilla showed her Hennessy running to be all wrong when staying on strongly behind Raymylette at Ascot on Saturday, having found the pace too quick during the first couple of miles. Genuinely soft ground now appears crucial for the mare owned by Henry and Veronica Cole.

With further rain falling yesterday on Kempton her chances of running have improved, but whatever the conditions Nicholson is bullish about the prospects of Barton Bank "the best chaser in the country on his day — bar none."

He has fully recovered from a nasty facial injury incurred when falling at Wetherby in October. The eight-year-old suffered a depressed fracture of the sinuses and needed 17 stitches.

"He's in great form and the fall has not dented his confidence. He has schooled three times since and never put a foot wrong; he never even steadied before a fence."

Winning the King George again remains top of Nicholson's Christmas present list, but there was cause enough for celebration at the stable's annual party, staged at Cheltenham racecourse on Saturday evening, after Hebridean, Relkeel and Konvekta King enabled Nicholson to record his fastest half-century of winners.

After mulling over Raymylette's tenacious success in Saturday's feature race, Nicky Henderson yesterday pinpointed the Hall Of Fame Chase, over an extended three miles at Cheltenham on January 28, as the likely next target, although the Racing Post Chase at Kempton in February is an alternative.

"The point of using the Hall Of Fame race would be to say we are taking the Gold Cup pretty seriously," Henderson said yesterday. Now undefeated in his five starts over fences, Raymylette saw off repeated challenges by Whispering Steel, whose jumping errors eventually ruined his chances, Lord Relic and, finally, Dubacilla. Coming to the final fence the odds seemed stacked against Raymylette, who had made all the running, as Dubacilla and Adrian Maguire loomed up alongside.

"As soon as the crowd roared, he picked up and that kept him going to the line," Mick Fitzgerald, the winning jockey, said. "He's like a lion and has got the biggest heart I have ever known."

Despite his relative inexperience, Raymylette already races and jumps like a mature steeplechaser and it will take a good horse to pass him. What would slightly concern me, with the Gold Cup in mind, is that Cheltenham is not a front-runners' track. Although Lady Lloyd Webber's chaser won the Cathcart there last season, he is arguably better travelling right-handed. Nonetheless, Mike Dillon of Ladbrokes was sufficiently impressed to cut him to 12-1 (from 20-1) for the Gold Cup, while William Hill and Coral go 14-1 and 16-1 respectively.

Results from Saturday's five meetings...... Page 30

Whatever the future holds for Raymylette, it will be no surprise if other Ascot winners figure prominently at the Cheltenham Festival.

Book Of Music must go on the short-list for the Sun Alliance Chase after routing Martin's Lamp and Leotard on his fencing debut. Kim Bailey has made no secret of his high opinion of the six-year-old he inherited from Josh Gifford's yard during the summer, and his confidence was vindicated in style by the 13-2 shot.

"I expected him to win today; he's a very good horse. Norman [Williamson] said his hardest problem was staying on him: he nearly jumped him off! If you look at his form last year, he ran some serious races and was on the bridle two out when running against Large Action." Bailey will return to Ascot with Book Of Music next month for a valuable three-mile novices' chase.

Berude Not To extended his unbeaten run to take the Kennel Gate Novices' Hurdle and appears the kind of horse who is always going to find more when challenged. "He was a different horse today, much sharper, and he is really learning now," Oliver Sherwood, his trainer, commented.

His next target is the Challow Hurdle at Newbury over an extended 2½ miles, which Sherwood won last year with Large Action, who runs at Windsor on January 2.

JULIAN HERBERT



Raymylette, left, clears the last fence with Dubacilla on his way to a tenacious success in the Betterware Cup at Ascot

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: SIR PETER LELY
(1.15 Edinburgh)
Next best: Air Shot
(12.30 Lingfield)

Richard Evans landed a good-priced nap at Ascot on Saturday with Book Of Music (13-2).

Aga Khan and Labour Party deliver right message



Aga Khan: remedy

The Aga Khan, spiritual leader of 15 million Ismaili Muslims, and the Labour Party, would-be leader of 55 million Britons, combined last week to deliver a stunning message to racing: the truth hurts.

First, the Aga. He was right and the Jockey Club was wrong: horribly wrong. Of course, that is not quite the way the powers that be within Portman Square see it, but then the mere mention of the Aga's name or the Aliysa case over the past four years has been enough to send the most mild-mannered Jockey Club member or official into uncontrollable fits of apoplexy.

Suffice to say the shortfalls in the drug-testing procedures, which were highlighted by the Aga after the disqualification of his 1989 Oaks winner, have been remedied along the lines he suggested. What a shame it required a leading owner-breeder to withdraw from British racing for four years to bring about the necessary change. The Jockey Club can now draw a line under this sorry episode, where it failed to cover itself in glory, and British racing will be richer thanks to the Aga's return.

Racing is also likely to be richer if the Labour Party wins the next general election. Or should I put it more bluntly? If you want racing to prosper, then vote Labour. For a sport whose main players are predominantly conservative — with a small and large C — that is going to take some swallowing, especially given the record of the Tories since 1979. After all, they have abolished on-course betting duty, reduced off-course tax, scrapped VAT on bloodstock and legalised Sunday racing.

However, voting Labour at the next general election is the natural conclusion to be drawn from the intelligent speech made at the Gimcrack dinner last week by my former colleague on *The Times*, Bernard (now Lord) Donoughue, who has one of the most enjoyable jobs in Westminster

RICHARD EVANS



Racing commentary

as Opposition spokesman on sport in the House of Lords. (Just imagine having to go to a Lords Test match, the Open golf championship or Ascot as part of your work.)

At York, Donoughue became the first spokesman from either of the main political parties in recent times to confront head-on the problem which continues to blight racing in Britain; namely the shortage of finance which is reflected in internationally low levels of prize-money. While government takes £350 million a year in betting duty and off-course bookmakers make an estimated £150 million in profit, racing receives around £55 million in levy — paid by betting shop punters.

Racing's meagre return from the £4 billion betting turnover it helps to generate was described by Donoughue as "peanuts." As he pointed out, correctly, British racing faces the prospect of five years of peanuts after the recent five-year levy deal.

Having cleared his speech with Labour colleagues, Donoughue then presented racing with the most important opportunity in years. Forget the "historical status quo" offered by the Tote and Levy Board, he said. Instead, be more radical and come up with a proper business plan which can help to redress the financial imbalance.

In effect, he was offering a future Labour government's services to broker a deal which ensures that racing gets a proper return from the considerable revenue it helps to create.

It is now up to Tristram Ricketts and the British Horseracing Board team to come up with such a plan, which is easier said than done. They must explore every option, however radical, and, if necessary, recruit the economic and legal brains to help them in their task.

The added expenditure of funding a mini "think-tank" would be a small price to pay if the result of their labours is a prosperous sport in the 21st century.

Flashing Steel struggles

From our Irish Racing Correspondent at Navan

THE Cheltenham Gold Cup hope, Flashing Steel, satisfied his trainer, John Mulhern, and rider, Jamie Osborne, on his seasonal debut at Navan yesterday despite finishing last of three finishers behind Bart Owen in the Santa Claus Handicap Chase.

It hardly looked the performance of a future Gold Cup winner, but Osborne said: "I was happy with the way he carried me until he got tired at the third-last fence. He needed that run."

Mulhern, who described the ground as "atrocious," added: "He jumped well and, in the circumstances, I am delighted with the way he ran. He should be right now for the Ericsson Chase at Leopardstown on Wednesday week." Flashing Steel is due to clash there with Merry Gale and Antonin.

Osborne confirmed that he would be travelling to Leopardstown to renew his association with Flashing Steel, on whom he finished fourth behind The Fellow in the Cheltenham Gold Cup last March.

Bart Owen, a well-backed second favourite, was left with the prize at his mercy when the long-time leader, Opera Hat, fell at the final fence when seemingly travelling just the better. The winner will reappear in the Findus Handicap Chase at Leopardstown tomorrow week.

Osborne had earlier made his journey worthwhile when winning the Christmas Presents Handicap Hurdle on the 7-1 chance, Wild Venture, for local trainer John Fowler.

The meeting, however, proved a personal triumph for Montelado's trainer, Pat Flynn, who landed a treble with the help of his accomplished claiming rider Shay Barry.

Between Barry's victories on Mrs Barton (5-1) and Prince Ole (100-30), Kevin O'Brien provided the middle leg of the trio when Aries Girl justified favouritism impressively in the Irish National Hunt Novices' Hurdle.

Zieten, representing John Gosden, could finish only ninth of 14 to the home-trained favourite, Sakura Bakushin O, in the £563,227 Sprinters Stakes at Nakayama, Tokyo, yesterday. The American challengers, Soviet Problem and Honor The Hero, were also soundly beaten in seventh and eighth.

☐ Moorcroft Boy has recovered from injury sufficiently to be allowed back to David Nicholson's stable from the Liverpool University Veterinary Hospital, which has been his home for the last month. The chaser fractured vertebrae in his neck when falling at Aintree.

☐ There will be an inspection at 2.00 tomorrow to see whether Hexham's meeting on Wednesday can go ahead. Parts of the course are waterlogged.

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TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Days since win	Level stakes
Mrs M Reveley	59	30	22	2	+25.87
M Pipe	57	35	38	1	-12.87
D Nicholson	50	27	21	1	+42.89
P Hobbs	49	41	25	1	-13.87
K Bailey	38	36	13	1	+58.15
N Twiston-Davies	36	39	25	3	-31.16
J White	34	29	22	12	-40.21
G Richards	25	16	16	22	-4.16
O Sherwood	24	9	15	1	-17.74
G Balding	29	18	14	16	+2.91
J Gifford	21	18	13	5	+9.24
Miss H Knight	19	13	9	4	+25.50

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stakes
R Dunwoody	90	59	53	0	-38.51
A Maguire	83	57	47	0	-47.12
N Williamson	61	53	36	1	+42.38
P Niven	52	31	28	1	-14.02
J Osborne	52	30	33	0	-51.09
D Bridgwater	42	25	26	5	+44.44
M Dwyer	38	44	25	2	-8.86
A Dobbin	37	24	24	1	-43.40
W Marston	33	14	15	0	+26.60
Peter Hobbs	29	35	16	3	-50.82
G McCourt	26	21	10	1	-7.46
C Llewellyn	26	25	19	7	-18.76

EDINBURGH

THUNDERER
12.15 Rosina Mae. 12.45 Astrac Trio. 1.15 Sir Peter Lely. 1.45 Cardenden. 2.15 Royal Citizen. 2.45 White Diamond. 3.15 NOYAN (nap).

GOING: GOOD SIS

12.15 BUCHAN AUTOMOTIVE MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,056: 2m 4f) (15 runners)

1 -PPP CHUKATEN 17 (V) J Mackie 5-11-8 T Eley (3) –
2 P- DRYDERDALE 221 Miss Z Green 5-11-8 K Jones –
3 P/ FINAL MEASURE 1018 Mrs A Swinbank 6-11-8 T Jenks (3) –
4 600 MISTI HUNTER 42 Miss M Milligan 5-11-8 J Callaghan –
5 31/3 REED 38 (F,G) Mrs D Thomson 9-11-8 S de Burgh (7) 80
6 6-00 SCOTCH N IRISH 9 Mrs S Smith 5-11-8 Mr L Donnelly (7) 65
7 0 STRONG ACCOUNT 9 J Johnson 5-11-8 N Doughty –
8 4/0- TRAP DANCER 209 (B) B Mactaggart 6-11-8 J Supple (5) –
9 04-0 UNCLE BENJI 51 J Parkes 5-11-8 A Thornton –
10 0-5 BLOOMING SPRING 128F Mrs D Thomson 5-11-3 L O'Hara –
11 -0R0 MEADOWLECK 42 W Young 5-11-3 J Burke (3) –
12 -033 ROSINA MAE 14 Mrs J Ramsden 5-11-3 R Garritty [illegible]
13 4 EXPLORE MONDIAL 14 T Dyer 3-10-8 L Wyer 78
14 665 AMNESIA 14 (V) Mrs S Bradburne 3-10-3 R Murphy (7) 75
15 P KEELADA 30 J Parkes 3-10-3 Richard Guest –

5-2 Rosina Mae, 4-1 Explore Mondial, 5-1 Amnesia, 7-1 Reed, 8-1 Strong Account, 10-1 Scotch N Irish, 12-1 Trap Dancer, 14-1 others.

12.45 FRED WILSON AND PARTNERS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,910: 2m) (9)

1 0-55 ASTRAC TRIO 14 (D,G) P Monteith 4-11-12 A Dobbin 92
2 4665 RICHMOND 3 (G) Mrs S Austin 6-11-6 D Wilkinson 98
3 -046 MARCO-PIERRE 38 J Barclay 5-11-5 A Thornton 92
4 /P-U HENBURY HALL 14 (D,G) P Monteith 6-11-5 T Jenks (3) –
5 2045 COMMANCHE CREEK 30 (B,BF,F) J Hellens 4-11-1 A Larnach (3) [illegible]
6 5-06 STARLIGHT WONDER 19 (D,F,G) R Barr 8-10-2 N Smith 97
7 43-P ARCTIC BLOOM 41 G Kelly 8-10-2 J Driscoll (7) 91
8 5460 FUNNY ROSE 45 P Monteith 4-10-0 G Cahill (7) 98
9 0PU POT LEEK LADY 31 (B) Mrs A Swinbank 3-10-0 Richard Guest –

11-4 Astrac Trio, 7-2 Commanche Creek, 9-2 Marco-Pierre, 6-1 Starlight Wonder, 8-1 Henbury Hall, Richmond, 12-1 Funny Rose, 25-1 others.

1.15 GLASSEDIN SECURITIES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,501: 2m 4f) (7)

1 -6P1 SIR PETER LELY 14 (V,CD,F,G,S) M Hammond 7-11-11 Mr C Bonner (5) 94
2 123F BORO SMACKEROO 10 (D,F,G,S) J Johnson 9-11-6 N Doughty 97
3 30-6 CORNET 21 (B,CD,F,G,S) Denys Smith 8-11-1 P Niven [illegible]
4 -322 CROSS CANNON 13 (F,G) J Hellens 8-10-9 A Larnach (3) 95
5 41-1 BOARDING SCHOOL 72 (D,F,G,S) C Parker 7-10-4 B Storey 96
6 2321 CELTIC SONG 19 (D,G,S) W Reed 7-10-0 A Dobbin 95
7 30-5 SHEILAS HILLCREST 88 (D,S) N Mason 8-10-0 J Supple (5) 89

11-4 Sir Peter Lely, 7-2 Cross Cannon, Boarding School, 4-1 Celtic Song, 5-1 Boro Smackeroo, 10-1 Cornet, 20-1 Sheilas Hillcrest.

Blinkered first time

EDINBURGH: 12.45 Pot Leek Lady. LINGFIELD PARK: 1.30 Phrose.

1.45 COBB McCALLUM & COMPANY MAIDEN CHASE (£2,421: 2m) (11)

1 0/6 BASSO PROFUNDO 14 W Reed 7-11-2 T Reed –
2 /5 BRACKEN BREEZE 14 B Mactaggart 9-11-2 N Doughty –
3 BUSTER BEN J Barclay 5-11-2 Richard Guest –
4 P4F2 CARDENDEN 14 J Barclay 6-11-2 A Thornton [illegible]
5 0064 FLING IN SPRING 14 Mrs S Bradburne 8-11-2 Mr J Bradburne 93
6 5-3P RALLYING CRY 45 R Allan 6-11-2 B Storey 98
7 0-40 STONEY BROOK 37 C Parker 6-11-2 Mr D Parker (5) 75
8 -23P STOP THE WALLER 33 M Barnes 5-11-2 G Cahill (7) 97
9 P34- DOLITINO 202 (S) Miss Z Green 10-10-11 A Larnach (3) 81
10 3F5- MELADAR 231P R Barr 7-10-11 N Smith –
11 0-00 ADMISSION 30 N Chamberlain 4-10-5 J Supple (5) –

7-2 Cardenden, 5-1 Stop The Waller, Fling In Spring, 6-1 Dolitino, Rallying Cry, Stoney Brook, 12-1 Basso Profondo, 16-1 others.

2.15 SWARLAND GRAIN DRIERS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,379: 2m) (11)

1 PF11 WEE RIVER 13 (D,F,S) G Moore 5-12-0 J Callaghan 94
2 046 TOP CEES 14 Mrs J Ramsden 4-11-2 R Garritty 91
3 0304 GALLARDINI 10 B Rothwell 5-11-2 A S Smith 97
4 2146 ROYAL CITIZEN 19 (D,G) J Bottomley 5-11-0 D Byrne [illegible]
5 013 SCOFFERA 10 (D,BF,G) N Tinkler 4-10-13 M Dwyer 85
6 -432 MAB 46 J Parkes 4-10-11 R McCarthy (7) 95
7 4532 KNOW-NO-NO 14 M Hammond 5-10-11 D Bentley (3) 97
8 FR83 CAMPTOSAURUS 19 J Johnson 5-10-4 Miss P Jones 90
9 011 NAHRI 7 (D,G) J Mackie 3-10-3 T Eley (3) 90
10 5132 MILNE'S A VILLAIN 14 (D,G) T Dyer 3-10-2 L Wyer 89
11 645 JOYRIDER 19 Miss M Milligan 3-10-0 A Dobbin 90

3-1 Wee River, 9-2 Top Cees, 5-1 Gallardini, 7-1 Nahri, Royal Citizen, 8-1 Milne's A Villain, 10-1 Know-No-No, 12-1 others.

2.45 PHILIP WILSON (CORN FACTORS) NOVICES CHASE (£2,853: 2m 4f) (11)

1 1626 BISHOPS CASTLE 21 (G) T Carr 6-11-0 T Reed –
2 U2F6 FRUHMAN 9 Mrs S Smith 8-11-0 Richard Guest [illegible]
3 P-00 GREEN TRIX 23 C Parker 6-11-0 B Storey –
4 0P-4 HIGHLAND FRIEND 9 (V) F Watson 6-11-0 J Supple (5) –
5 -289 PURITAN 9 (F,G,S) N Tinkler 5-11-0 M Dwyer –
6 350F RAPID MOVER 9 (B,F) D Nolan 7-11-0 M Moloney 83
7 0685 SWEET CALLERNISH 3 J Johnson 6-11-0 N Doughty 72
8 PP5F TEMPLERAINEY 13 (G) Mrs S Bradburne 8-11-0 Mr J Bradburne 87
9 -200 WHITE DIAMOND 13 (BF,F,S) Mrs A Swinbank 6-11-0 T Jenks (3) –
10 4P-5 EVE PET 39 J Aynsley 10-10-9 K Johnson 79
11 0-P4 LA MOLINILLA 9 (F) Mrs K Lamb 11-10-9 Miss S Lamb (7) –

5-2 Puritan, 9-2 Rapid Mover, 6-1 White Diamond, 7-1 Fruhman, 8-1 Templerainey, 10-1 Bishops Castle, 14-1 Green Trix, Sweet Callernish, Eve Pet, 20-1 Highland Friend, 25-1 La Molinilla.

3.15 REID BRECHIN & COMPANY HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,671: 3m) (9)

1 5135 EID 9 (F,G) Mrs S Smith 5-11-12 Richard Guest 88
2 6-31 TROODOS 30 (F,G) Mrs S Austin 8-11-4 D Wilkinson 90
3 0121 NOYAN 14 (C,F,G) L Lungo 4-11-0 T Reed [illegible]
4 -043 PLUMBOB 21 (G) Mrs S Bradburne 5-10-7 R Murphy (7) [illegible]
5 P166 MANGROVE MIST 21 (F,G) P Monteith 6-10-6 T Jenks (3) 93
6 2311 TRUMP 8 (C,D,G,S) C Parker 5-10-0 Mr D Parker (5) 96
7 3330 FLASS VALE 52 (V,F) C Fairhurst 6-10-0 C Hawkins 93
8 0545 HAZEL LEAF 26 (G,S) R McDonald 8-10-0 R Hodge 90
9 0-40 JUKE BOX BILLY 41 (C,BF,F) J Johnson 6-10-0 Miss P Jones 89

3-1 Noyan, 7-2 Trump, 9-2 Troodos, 5-1 Eid, 8-1 Plumbob, 10-1 Mangrove Mist, 12-1 Flass Vale, 14-1 Juke Box Billy, 20-1 others.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER
12.30 Air Shot. 1.00 Northern Saddler. 1.30 El Grando. 2.00 Persian Sword. 2.30 Maneree. 3.00 Rosgill. 3.30 Namaste.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.00 PETOSKU.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: HEAVY SIS

12.30 EBF NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: £2,173: 2m 110yd) (16 runners)

101 112-511 AIR SHOT 9 (CD,G,S) (Mrs P Prowting) D Nicholson 4-11-10 A Maguire 89
102 002-00 ASLAR 31 (J Moore) J Moore 5-11-0 W McFarland 69
103 050- BIMSEY 172 (B) (A Ryan) R Akehurst 4-11-0 R Dunwoody –
104 00-200 BOBBIE MO 27 (B Joseph) J White 4-11-0 P McLoughlin (5) 56
105 P- DEMOFONTE 429 (A Coogan) A Coogan 6-11-0 J McLaughlin –
106 ENVOPAKLEADA (F Arthur) D Grissell 4-11-0 Peter Hobbs –
107 HAWARAN SAM (R Russell) A Tuxnell 4-11-0 L Harvey –
108 50- HOPE THATCH 321 (T Green) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 6-11-0 A Tory –
109 PU0- JUST BRUCE 206 (A Heath) Mrs E Heath 5-11-0 T Kent –
110 0- LITTLE WISHFUL 398 (The Wishful Thinkers) R Dickin 6-11-0 Miss S Duckett (7) –
111 303630- LODESTONE LAD 268 (Mrs D Weaver) R Dickin 4-11-0 D Meredith (3) [illegible]
112 6-5 MR PRESIDENT 46 (J Halliday) C Brooks 5-11-0 G Bradley 73
113 0 SECRET BID 26 (The Droop Partners) R Alner 4-11-0 S Earle –
114 40-3 SO HOPEFUL 47 (M Padfield) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 5-11-0 R Greene 96
115 40-03 WHERE'S WILLIE 14 (D Langdon) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-0 D Bridgwater 82
116 0- TOP MISS 285 (A Neaves) A Neaves 5-10-9 J R Kavanagh –

BETTING: 4-5 Air Shot, 9-2 Where's Willie, 7-1 So Hopeful, 8-1 Bimsey, 10-1 Mr President, 12-1 Lodestone Lad, 16-1 others.

1993: MEETING ABANDONED — COURSE WATERLOGGED

FORM FOCUS

AIR SHOT completing double, beat Absolutely Average 4l in 10-runner novice hurdle over course and distance (heavy). ASLAR tailed off 7th of 10 to Over The Pole in novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 4f, good). BIMSEY beat Unsinkable Boxer 4l in 18-runner National Hunt Flat race at Tralee (2m, yielding to soft).
HOPE THATCH best effort when 10¾l 5th of 14 to St Mellion Fairway in National Hunt Flat race at Newbury (2m, heavy) last season. LODESTONE LAD short-head and 10l 3rd of 25 to Squire Silk in novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good) penultimate start last season. MR PRESIDENT 16¾l 5th of 15 to Severn Gale in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good to soft). SO HOPEFUL 6l 3rd of 7 to Connaught Crusader in novice hurdle at Kempton (2m 5f, good to soft).
Selection: AIR SHOT

1.00 RUSSELL ENTREPRENEURIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,631: 2m) (3 runners)

201 2280-41 NORTHERN SADDLER 11 (D,F,G,S) (R Evans) R Hodges 7-11-10 R Dunwoody [illegible]
202 124-U22 SOLEIL DANCER 13 (CD,S) (Mrs J Grist) D Grissell 6-11-4 J Railton 95
203 54P55F GREENHEART 6 (D,F,G) (A Dean) R Dean 11-10-2 M Richards 74

BETTING: 2-5 Northern Saddler, 7-4 Soleil Dancer, 16-1 Greenheart.

FORM FOCUS

NORTHERN SADDLER beat Bustinello 8l in 9-runner handicap chase at Fakenham (2m 110yd, good), with GREENHEART (10lb better off) tailed off 5th.
SOLEIL DANCER 10l 2nd of 5 to Pats Minstrel in handicap chase at Plumpton (2m, soft), with GREENHEART tailed off 5th. Better effort, 2½l 2nd of 6 to Driving Force in handicap chase at Windsor (2m, good to soft).
Selection: NORTHERN SADDLER

1.30 RUSSELL FOUR J'S NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,157: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)

301 06/2/F- MERCHANT HOUSE 287F (J Naughton) P McEntee 6-11-10 T Kent –
302 P42251 EL GRANDO 13 (S) (M Brunton) K Cunningham-Brown 4-11-8 A Maguire 94
303 4-PU011 SPORTS VIEW 7 (D,S) (J Warner) R Hodges 5-11-8 (7ex) R Dunwoody [illegible]
304 32-253P DOC COTTRILL 24 (Bakers Arms Partnership) N Twiston-Davies 4-11-4 D Bridgwater 98
305 4P445/0 CARABUCK 28 (H Shipton) R Rowe 7-10-8 E Murphy –
306 060-604 PHROSE 21 (B) (Mrs S Gay) C Weedon 4-10-1 R Burns (7) 93
307 0000-06 FIRST COMMAND 9 (Dr K Bowen) S Bowen 7-10-0 Pat Thompson (7) –
308 00-0 BAN RI 13 (A Neaves) A Neaves 4-10-0 J R Kavanagh –
309 4P/0 TODAY'S FANCY 13 (D O'Brien) D O'Brien 6-10-0 Mr G Brown –

Long handicap: First Command 9-12, Ban Ri 9-6, Today's Fancy 8-12.

BETTING: 5-4 Sports View, 6-4 El Grando, 5-1 Doc Cottrill, 10-1 Phrose, 14-1 Merchant House, 16-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

MERCHANT HOUSE best effort short-head 2nd of 11 to Bayphia in Exeter novice hurdle (2m 1f 110yd, good to firm) in August 1992. EL GRANDO beat Yellow Corn 10l in 8-runner Plumpton novice handicap hurdle (2m 1f, soft). SPORTS VIEW, completing double, beat Al Forbett 11l in 8-runner Newton Abbot novice hurdle (2m 1f, heavy). DOC COTTRILL 12l 3rd of 14 to Billygoat Gruff in Towcester novice hurdle (2m, good to soft) penultimate start. PHROSE 14l 4th of 9 to Valianthe in claiming novice hurdle at Worcester (2m 4f, soft). FIRST COMMAND tailed off behind Air Shot in novice hurdle over course and distance (heavy).
Selection: SPORTS VIEW

2.00 RUSSELL QUICKPRINTER MAGAZINE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,555: 3m) (8 runners)

401 2112-21 VAL D'ALENE 58 (G,S) (Marc de Monfort) F Doumen 7-12-0 A Kondrat –
402 41-15F0 BOWL OF OATS 30 (B,C,S) (Mrs A Morley) A Turnell 8-11-10 S McNeill 88
403 2123-P5 SILVERINO 8 (CD,G,S) (D Humphreys) G L Moore 8-11-5 M Richards 91
404 2326-52 GINGER TRISTAN 9 (C,G,S) (Mrs C Notley) D Grissell 8-11-1 Peter Hobbs 93
405 UF250-3 PERSIAN SWORD 25 (BF,S) (P Hepworth) D Nicholson 8-11-0 A Maguire [illegible]
406 /1U03P DWADME 28 (B,F,S) (Sussex Renovations Ltd) R O'Sullivan 9-10-13 B Powell 95
407 P3332- WILLOW GALE 358 (G) (J Plackett) P Bater 7-10-3 M A Fitzgerald 94
408 F5545F GREEN WALK 6 (F) (C Cornwell) R Rowe 7-10-0 T Grantham 89

Long handicap: Willow Gale 9-13, Green Walk 9-4.

BETTING: 2-1 Val D'Alene, 11-4 Ginger Tristan, 3-1 Persian Sword, 5-1 Bowl Of Oats, 8-1 Willow Gale, 16-1 Silverino, 25-1 Dwadme, Green Walk.

FORM FOCUS

VAL D'ALENE beat Chic Laurel 1½l in 15-runner handicap chase at Auteuil (2m 7f 110yd, soft). BOWL OF OATS best effort when beating Wide Boy 8l in 4-runner handicap chase at Newton Abbot (2m 5f, good to soft). SILVERINO tailed off 5th of 11 to Amio Calione in handicap chase at Folkestone (3m 2f, good to soft). GINGER TRISTAN ¾l 2nd of 6 to Bold Choice in handicap chase at Lingfield (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). PERSIAN SWORD 3¾l 3rd of 6 to Supposin in handicap chase at Nottingham (2m 5f 110yd, good). DWADME 6¾l 3rd of 6 to Emerald Storm in handicap chase at Windsor (3m, good to soft). WILLOW GALE 5l 2nd of 7, subsequently awarded race, to All For Luck in novice handicap chase at Newbury (2m 4f, good).
Selection: PERSIAN SWORD

2.30 HBLB CHRISTMAS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,265: 2m 3f 110yd) (7 runners)

501 108-665 MANEREE 11 (CD,G,S) (M Tabor) N Callaghan 7-11-10 R Campbell 93
502 0/432-35 JADIDH 11 (D,F,G,S) (D Hazzard) C Wildman 6-10-9 A Maguire 89
503 5230-23 GLENCARRIG GALE 13 (Petticoa Partnership) D Grissell 6-10-8 Peter Hobbs 86
504 33/1012- DESERT FORCE 215 (F,G,S) (J Naughton) P McEntee 5-10-6 T Kent 98
505 0635-00 BADRAKHANI 47 (G,S) (P Slade) C Nash 8-10-5 R Dunwoody 90
506 164-46F WOODLANDS BOY 6 (B,F) (S Moore) R Hoad 6-10-1 M Richards [illegible]
507 0564-R0 CARFAX 2F (B,C,G,S) (Mrs V Maunders) R Hoad 9-10-0 M Hourigan 75

Long handicap: Carfax 9-7

BETTING: 9-4 Glencarrig Gale, 5-2 Maneree, 4-1 Jadidh, 5-1 Desert Force, 6-1 Badrakhani, 16-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

MANEREE 9¾l 5th of 10 to Mizyan in handicap hurdle at Fakenham (2m 4f, good). JADIDH 4½l 3rd of 14 to Island Jewel in handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m 6f 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. GLENCARRIG GALE 2¼l 3rd of 15 to Desmond Gold in novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, soft).
DESERT FORCE 6l 2nd of 10 to Couture Stockings in handicap hurdle at Worcester (2m 5f 110yd, good to firm) final start last season. BADRAKHANI 15l 7th of 9 to Saint Ciel in handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m, good). WOODLANDS BOY best effort when beating Ile de Soo 1½l in 13-runner novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 6f, good to firm) last season.
Selection: DESERT FORCE

3.00 FX AND MM MAGAZINE NOVICES CHASE (£2,833: 2m 4f 110yd) (9 runners)

601 2/11U25 PETOSKU 2 (BF,G,S) (F Mills) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-7 D Bridgwater [illegible]
602 6200-1P COUNTERBALANCE 24 (S) (J McConnochie) J McConnochie 7-11-2 J J Brown (7) 88
603 F/53-52P AEDEAN 23 (S) (M Orpen-Palmer) G Enright 5-11-0 R Dunwoody 87
604 230-004 MY SENOR 13 (S) (M Madgwick) M Madgwick 5-11-0 F Leahy (5) 81
605 0/U- PALMO DAYS 428 (G) (Mrs L Browning) D Browning 8-11-0 Peter Hobbs –
606 3U/2P2/ ROCCO 712 (G,S) (M Oberstein) S Sherwood 7-11-0 J Osborne –
607 12-0652 ROSGILL 13 (BF,F,S) (Brigadier Racing) J White 8-11-0 A Maguire 80
608 60350-0 SURE PRIDE 31 (F,G) (J Smith (Chislehurst) Ltd) A Moore 6-11-0 D Gallagher –
609 U-04 TOO PLUSH 53 (Mrs C Williams) A Turnell 5-11-0 L Harvey 70

BETTING: 6-4 Petosku, 2-1 Rocco, 7-2 Rosgill, 5-1 Counterbalance, 10-1 Too Plush, 12-1 My Senor, 16-1 Aedean, 25-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

PETOSKU best effort when beating Corner Boy head in 7-runner novice chase at Haydock (3m, good). COUNTERBALANCE beat Pontyrevan 3l in 4-runner novice chase at Warwick (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start. AEDEAN 12l 2nd of 5 to Leotard in novice chase at Kempton (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start.
ROCCO best effort when 2½l 2nd of 14 to Washingtoncrossing in novice chase over course and distance (heavy) in January 1993.
ROSGILL 4l 2nd of 6 to War Counsel in novice chase at Plumpton (2m, soft), with MY SENOR 17¼l 4th. TOO PLUSH 21½l 4th of 14 to Smith's Band in novice chase at Stratford (2m 5f 110yd, good).
Selection: PETOSKU

3.30 RUSSELL PUBLISHING CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,831: 2m 110yd) (5 runners)

1 0P1/11 NAMASTE 11 (D,G,S) (J Galvanoni) R Hoad 6-12-0 Chris Webb (4) 98
2 61036-0 ROGER'S PAL 49 (CD,G,S) (K Higson) A Moore 7-11-6 Pat Thompson (4) 98
3 1P/0- COURAGE-MON-BRAVE 233 (F) (Mrs A Gamble) R Hoad 6-10-13 J A McCarthy –
4 00-5000 GARDA'S GOLD 7 (CD,S) (G Brown) R Dickin 11-10-2 D Meredith [illegible]
5 P/P4 CHEVELEY DANCER 19 (D,S) (G Jackman) D Wilson 6-10-0 A P McCoy 92

BETTING: 8-11 Namaste, 2-1 Cheveley Dancer, 7-1 Roger's Pal, 14-1 Garda's Gold, 20-1 Courage-Mon-Brave.

FORM FOCUS

NAMASTE, completed double, beat Alosaili head in 10-runner Fakenham selling handicap hurdle (2m, good). ROGER'S PAL best effort last season 5l 3rd of 18 to Shanakee in Plumpton claiming hurdle (2m 4f, good to firm). COURAGE-MON-BRAVE beat Cole 'a' Ghaill 1½l in 10-runner Fontwell juvenile hurdle (2m 2f, firm) in August 1991. GARDA'S GOLD tailed off behind Asl El Asl in Newton Abbot handicap hurdle (2m 1f, heavy). CHEVELEY DANCER 23l 4th to Alice's Mirror in Plumpton handicap hurdle (2m 1f, soft).
Selection: NAMASTE (nap)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
A Turnell	6	14	42.8	J Osborne	12	43	27.9
C Weedon	8	21	38.1	T Grantham	7	27	25.9
R Akehurst	18	58	31.0	Peter Hobbs	8	31	25.8
J White	10	54	18.5	R Greene	4	17	23.5
D Grissell	11	60	18.3	A Maguire	20	89	22.5
R Rowe	4	22	18.2	J R Kavanagh	6	32	18.8

EDINBURGH COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: N Tinkler, 6 winners from 21 runners, 28.6%; M Hammond, 19 from 79, 24.1%; P Monteith, 10 from 49, 20.4%; B Rothwell, 3 from 15, 20.0%; C Parker, 5 from 26, 19.2%; L Lungo, 5 from 26, 19.2%; G Moore, 7 from 37, 18.9.

JOCKEYS: Mr C Bonner, 3 winners from 8 rides, 37.5%; T Jenks 3 10 30%; T Reed, 16 from 76, 21.1%; M Dwyer, 9 from 47, 19.1%; P Niven, 11 from 58, 19.0%; J Callaghan, 7 from 37, 18.9%; B Storey, 17 from 109, 15.6%.

A day out on the track at Brands Hatch provides some heart-stopping moments for **Alexandra Frean**



TONY WHITE

Steering through the terror

SPORT FOR ALL



Alexandra Frean goes through her paces at Brands Hatch watched by her instructor, Tim Jones

Nothing quite prepared me for the thrill of driving a racing car around a professional race circuit.

Hurtling along a track at 100 mph, slamming into corners, clipping the inside of bends, banging first the accelerator, then the brakes and squeezing past other cars; for a naturally cautious driver it is a terrifying and exciting experience, even when you are only in a souped-up Ford Fiesta.

I got my taste for racing at Brands Hatch in Kent, which offers motorists the opportunity to fulfil their dreams of driving custom-built cars as fast as they dare and speeding past chequered flags.

More than 30,000 people a year take part in training courses at Brands Hatch and its affiliated centres in Cheshire and Norfolk, where they can learn the rudiments of racing in a controlled environment.

The courses are run by professional drivers, who combine lessons in racing theory, safety and trackcraft with practical lessons. The first piece of advice from my instructor, Tim Jones, a former British Formula 3 driver, was to drive around the circuit as if I were taking my grandmother to the supermarket. Poor granny, she would not have survived long in the back of my racing car.

Once out on the circuit in a Ford Fiesta sports saloon car, I found there was so much theory to remember, I forgot to drive fast. I eventually managed to make it up to 80 mph, but kept forgetting to brake before the bends. Throughout the whole morning I might have topped 100 mph very briefly, but for most of the time my speeds were much lower.

I did not really appreciate what motor racing was all about until Tim took the wheel. Strapped firmly into the passenger seat with a shoulder harness and a belt around the middle, crash helmet fastened tight, I closed my eyes and waited for near-certain death. Crash barriers loomed into view and disappeared, tyres burnt, the engine growled, we passed other cars within a couple of millimetres.

I need not have worried. Tim drove like a dream. He also pointed out that racing driving is one of the safest sports around. According to the Office of Population and Census Surveys, it has fewer fatalities than horse riding, rugby, hockey and, believe or not, angling.

By the time I took the seat in a single-seater Formula First 1600cc car, a cigar-shaped vehicle which looks like the real thing, I was showing a healthy competitive streak. With the wind in my face and the growl of the engine in my ears, I even forgot that I was scared.

So much of what you learn at Brands Hatch contradicts what you are taught to pass your standard driving test that it is difficult to ascertain whether the experience improves your road-driving skills.

Top of the list of accepted road-driving wisdom to unlearn concerns the wheel grip. Potential racers are taught never to thread the wheel through their hands, but instead to keep their hands firmly planted at a "ten to two" position and to leave them in the same grip when turning, even if it means that their arms cross over one another on a tight bend. That way, a driver always knows exactly which way the front wheels are facing. Novices are also taught never to use the gears to slow down the engine — that is what the brakes are for.

The most important thing to learn are the flag signals — until you know these you will not be allowed on the track. You also need to understand the "racing line", which represents the positioning of the car through an almost constant radius at each bend.

Recently renamed as the Nigel Mansell Racing School, the Brands Hatch centre has come a long way since 1953, when the Universal Motor Racing Club was formed there. Equipped with a solitary Cooper 500, the school opened on Wednesday afternoons only. The legendary Graham Hill, then the school mechanic, gave the lessons: £1 for four laps.

Today, by far the majority of courses are bought by women as presents for husbands and boyfriends. Although only four of the 50 instructors at the three centres are women, there are a sprinkling of women on most courses and the atmosphere is anything but macho. On the day I attended, the only person to "wimp out" after his first circuit was a six-foot hunk, who was visibly disturbed by the experience and pleaded with his girlfriend to let him go home.

The course can be an end in itself — a fun day out — or can lead to further lessons. Once you have completed a Super Trial course, and passed, you can apply for an RAC novice motor racing licence.

● *The Nigel Mansell Racing School at Brands Hatch can be contacted on 0474 872967. The course is approved by the Association of Racing Driver Schools (ARDS), a professional association formed in partnership with the RAC Motor Sports Association. ARDS courses are also available at Oulton Park in Cheshire (0829 760381) and Snetterton in Norwich (0953 887303). Course prices range from £79 for an initial trial, to £169 for a more advanced Super Trial, which includes driving single-seater Formula First cars. Individual instruction classes are also available at £45-£49 for 30 minutes.*

UNDERSTANDER'S ORDERS

These are the stages for anyone who wants to take a serious look at motor racing:

☐ Most people start with Karts, which run on slick (racing) tyres.

☐ The next step is Formula Ford, the entry level to circuit racing. Engines are controlled at 1800cc and cars run on treaded tyres.

☐ From Formula Ford, drivers can go to Formula Renault or Vauxhall Lotus. These cars run on slick tyres and have wings to help to keep the cars on the track. Engines are 2-litre.

☐ Next comes Formula 3, in which there are a number of classes and engine sizes, and then Formula 3000, in which the cars are similar but only have 3-litre engines.

☐ Formula 1 is the pinnacle of the sport. You need a Super Licence to drive these 3.5-litre cars.



Geared up for the real thing

Eagles fall, Cougars roar

Keighley Cougars 26
Sheffield Eagles 10

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

BEFORE Cougarmania, Keighley was a blot on the rugby league landscape: pretty setting, shame about the club. Then, against the backdrop of Brontë country, they Americanised tumbledown Lawkholme Lane and, for three years now, the Cougars have been roaring.

Mike O'Neill is no ordinary club chairman. He sports a blue stetson and whips the crowd into a frenzy over the Tannoy. "You have been Cougarized, Sheffield," he announced, proudly, after a famous victory yesterday which put Keighley into the quarter-finals of the Regal Trophy for the first time in 18 years.

The first division side sank its knees on the bogged pitch. So convincing a defeat was no less than they deserved. Keighley had the greater pace to match their ambition and, down Sheffield's vulnerable left side, scored three of four excellent tries.

The Cougars have been vigorously marketed. Whereas a few hundred masochists used to turn up, an average 3,500 supporters now follow the rising fortunes of a club hailed as the future face of sport. Tradition, certainly, got Keighley nowhere. When they won the old third division in 1992-93, it was their first honour for nine decades. Their promotion challenge tailed off last season, but this time they have dropped just three points in leading the second division.

The first division should hold few worries. Phil Larder, the Keighley coach, said: "Sheffield only played as well as we allowed them to. This was a benchmark and, to all intents and purposes, a first division match, and all 15 did exceptionally well."

It was the irresistable running from deep of the entire Keighley back line that left Sheffield in tatters. The ball was strung along from right to left for Cochrane to provide the first try by Dixon that highlighted the weakness of Sheffield down the left.

Two players from each side were sin-binned, as Robert Connolly rigorously clamped down on infringing at the play-the-ball. The temporary disappearance of Carr and Broadbent for Sheffield cost them dearly in the first half when Keighley ran up a 20-4 lead as Irving created room for Cochrane to touch down and Robinson chased up a visionary kick through.

Hughes burst onto a neat reverse pass by Jackson, while Doorey, the Keighley second-rower, was in the sin-bin, shortly before the interval, but Stoop's try proved the critical score in the 50th minute.

SCORERS: Keighley: Tries: Dixon, Cochrane, Robinson, Stoop. Goals: Irving (5). Sheffield: Tries: Hughes, Sheridan. Goal: Mycoe.
KEIGHLEY COUGARS: A Stoop; A Eyres, N Pinkney, S Irving, K Dixon, M Wood, C Robinson; I Gassley (sub, B Hill, 58min), J Ramshaw, S Hall, P Stephenson (sub, D Appleby, 59), G Doorey, G Cochrane (sub: Stephenson, 72).
SHEFFIELD EAGLES: M Gamson, R Pickeley (sub: D Turner, 40), K Senior, D Mycoe, B Sodje; R Price, R Sheridan; P Broadbent, L Jackson, J Glancy (sub: D Powell, 60), P Carr, I Hughes, A Farrell.
Referee: R Connolly.

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Batley glimpse glory

BATLEY were within a minute of a famous giant-killing act yesterday, when Dave Lyon went over for a try and Bobby Goulding converted it to spare St Helens' blushes with a 22-22 draw at Mount Pleasant (Christopher Irvine writes).

The second division rugby league side thought it had this Regal Trophy third-round tie sewn up when Paul Harrison scored the second of his tries in the 76th minute. The sides will replay tomorrow at Knowsley Road, with the reward for victory a visit to Wigan in the quarter-finals. Keighley, after causing the upset of Sheffield Eagles, picked up another home tie in the draw last night. They will receive Warrington, who came from 14 points behind to win at Salford on Saturday.

Leeds extricated themselves from a tricky position in the mud at Workington to win 18-14 with tries by Ellery Hanley, Garry Schofield and Francis Cummins. They next meet Dewsbury or Castleford who will play their third-round match tomorrow after yesterday's postponement caused by a waterlogged pitch.

Wigan had a reasonably comfortable ride at Hull, winning 38-14 despite the sending-off of the Great Britain forward, Denis Betts. Martin Offiah scored three tries, taking his total for the season to 25, and Frano Botica landed nine goals.

Widnes, after beating Oldham 20-6 entertained Bradford Northern, the only first division side to enjoy a comfortable win at the expense of lower division opposition, when they beat Whitehaven 34-14.

REGAL TROPHY DRAW: Quarter-finals: Widnes v Bradford Northern, Leeds v Dewsbury or Castleford, Keighley v Warrington, Wigan v Batley or St Helens.
Ties to be played on January 7 and 8.

St Albans refuse to let trophy hold slip

ST ALBANS, last year's winners of the indoor club hockey championship, recovered to defeat Teddington 8-11 at Aldenham School yesterday and so join Old Loughtonians and East Grinstead in the finals night at Crystal Palace on January 20 (Sydney Friskin writes).

After several exciting tussles in the afternoon, St Albans, whose depleted ranks were reinforced by Rowley and Port, had to beat Teddington to survive the preliminary round. Their tactical awareness eventually outweighed the skills and power of Teddington, who had led 3-1 and 5-2.

By half-time, St Albans had cut the lead to 5-3 and, at 6-4 down, were still in with a chance. Then, in the last ten minutes, Rowley reduced the lead and three goals by Graham Day put them 8-6 ahead. Billson scored for Teddington but, in a late flurry of activity, two more goals by Graham Day and one from Malcolm Day put St Albans 11-7 in front. Madath scored for Teddington at the death.

Old Loughtonians consolidated their position at the top of the table with a 10-1 victory over Firebrands. They had earlier recovered to beat Teddington 9-6.

Teddington, who got away to a good start with two goals by Billson from corners, led 5-2 and 6-5. But Old Loughtonians, inspired by Halls, won the match with two goals by Gladman and two more from Barker and Halls from corners.

East Grinstead made sure of their place on finals night with a 10-3 victory over Redbridge and Ilford after an uncertain start. The qualifiers from pool two at RAF Newton were Barford Tigers, Stourport and Hull.

Cold comfort from Melodious Celery

At Ascot on Saturday, then again at Brentford later in the afternoon — an event Plymouth Argyle supporters will fervently wish to forget — the weather was unreasonably clement. It is part of Sod's law that now we have all-weather race tracks, indoor athletic arenas and covered football stadiums with underpitch heating, December afternoons come in at 14°C.

It was, of course, not ever thus and quite especially was it not in 1967. The freeze caused everything that had been arranged to be postponed. Racing was cancelled and punters who thought the publication of the pools panel's decisions lacked some of the immediacy of a contest, had little choice but to go to betting shops and invest their flutter-money on all that was available: greyhounds of whom they had not heard, running at tracks which may or may not have existed (to this day I have still to find anyone who knows the whereabouts of Monmore; yet it is on betting shop television screens whenever one looks).

In the sports room of the old *Daily Herald* building, we played poker, waited for the thaw and, one afternoon, feeling like Captain Oates on Scott's ill-fated expedition, I told them I would not be long and went to Park Royal.

The dog track was covered with a thin layer of straw and the crowd — usually about 1,200, boosted to twice that number by the lack of alternatives — huddled in the bars and restaurants.

During the 1950s, Park Royal had been my Monday afternoon place-to-go: it was then exceptionally popular with catering workers and the Chinese. Crowds were upwards of 5,000 . . . but betting shops had taken the caterers and thoughts of Mao claimed the attention of Orientals.

What is salutory about dog racing is that nobody ascribes attendance to altruistic motives like loving the pure beauty of the speeding greyhound. You go there to bet.

Admission was four, six or eight shillings, the two upper prices gaining admission to the same enclosure — so, if you had been there before and passed through the six shilling turnstile, you were already a florin to the good.

There were tables at which you could eat beef sandwiches for 3s 6d. The tote was weakish but two banks of bookmakers took real money and Park Royal with a good proportion of winning favourites was not only a fair track; when the wind was in the right direction, it brought the uplifting smell of hops from the Guinness factory across the road.

CLEMENT FREUD



Afterthoughts

For the better, the main difference between horse and dog racing is that the dog goes it alone and as a nation we are loath to blame our dumb friends for tactics which, if deployed by a jockey, would have us baying for his blood. Dogs race from the traps to the finishing line. If they ran over a straight course, the same beast would win every time. As this would impair the lifestyle of bookmakers, there are bends, with some dogs running wide and others railing tightly, some starting quickly and fading, others beginning slowly and accelerating — not to mention dogs that are bumped, impeded, bored, knocked over . . . quite apart from the chances of dogs fighting, going lame, coming into season, one bets in limited fists full of dosh.

I see from my notes that I placed money on a brindle bitch called Melodious Celery, whose performance on the track failed to match the beauty of her name. And I had coffee with a racing manager who told me that dogs from traps one, two and six narrowly outperformed the mid-trap runners and, if I did forecasts involving the three favoured draws, I would show a slight profit over the season.

As "a slight profit" was not what I had in mind, I backed a dog led up by a kennel maid with a huge bust. He came fifth.

Sharks set sights on challenge of Tigers

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

THE widely held assumption that the eventual Budweiser League champions could lose as many as seven basketball games in the most open title race for years suggests there are five clubs still in realistic contention.

With six defeats already to their names, Worthing Bears, the 1993 winners, and the Leopards can probably be ruled out of a serious challenge to the leaders, Sheffield Sharks, who have lost only once.

But with all three fixtures yet to come against the defending champions, Thames Valley Tigers, who are also their opponents in next month's 7-Up Trophy final, Sheffield have it all to do, particularly if Steve Bucknall maintains his hot streak for the Tigers.

The scorer of 32 points in the midweek trophy semi-final success against the Bears, Bucknall heaped more misery on them with another 30 in the league game between the clubs on Saturday. "It is going to be difficult but if we don't lose another game, we've got as good a chance as anyone," he said.

With Peter Scantlebury adding 21 points and Tony Holley 15, the Tigers won 84-76, going away in the final quarter in a decisive 7-0 burst after Alan Cunningham had cut Worthing's arrears to a single point at 73-72.

Cleave Lewis (21 points), Colin Irish (20) and Herman Harried (19) were Worthing's top scorers.

On the evidence of their crushing 97-46 success against Sunderland Scorpions, Manchester Giants can hardly be called out of the chasm, particularly as they have no distractions in the knockout competitions after their surprise cup defeat by Chester Jets last week.

Sunderland's jubilation at their midweek league win at Derby did not last very long. By the time they had sunk their first basket, 105 seconds into the second quarter, the Giants had accumulated 22 points.

Sunderland finished with the lowest Budweiser League tally of the season and Russ Saunders, the scorer of 78 points in his two previous outings, ended with a meagre six to his name.

Cameron Johnson, Manchester's new American, their third this season — a swift replacement for Marc Blucas — collected 25 points, one fewer than Trevor Gordon.

With their 97-75 victory over Leicester City Riders, London Towers have won all nine matches since the arrival of Tony Windless, who nonetheless blotted his copybook by being disqualified, along with Hilroy Johnson, of Leicester, for fighting.

Danny Lewis sank 24 points for the Towers and 21 apiece came from Joel Moore and Kenny Scott.

Results, page 30

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Court of Appeal | Law Report December 19 1994 | Queen's Bench Divisional Court

Bank took reasonable steps on wife's rights

Banco Exterior Internacional v Mann and Others

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Hobhouse and Lord Justice Morritt

[Judgment November 23]

A bank had taken reasonable steps in granting a loan to a husband's company secured in part by a charge created by his wife on the matrimonial home, when it had required (i) her to sign a form of declaration in the presence of a solicitor and (ii) that the form of declaration be signed by a witness certifying that prior to its execution its nature and effect had been explained to her.

The Court of Appeal so held, Lord Justice Hobhouse dissenting, when allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Banco Exterior Internacional, from the dismissal by Mr John Martin, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge, of the bank's claim as against the second defendant, Mrs Valerie Mann, for possession of the matrimonial home at 12 Hillcrest Avenue, Edgware.

The judge had upheld the bank's claim against the first defendant, Mrs Mann's husband, Mr Tony Mann, and against the third defendant, his trustee in bankruptcy.

The husband had wished to charge the matrimonial home as security for a loan to be granted by the bank to his company. The bank sent to the company, marked for the attention of the husband, the relevant documents to enable the wife to sign a declaration that her rights would be postponed to the bank's charge over the property.

By its covering letter the bank required the wife's declaration to be signed by her in the presence of her solicitor who would certify that its effect had been explained to her. The documents were sent on to the solicitor who for some time had acted for the company and for the husband.

The solicitor explained the declaration to the wife who stated that she had little choice but to sign. The solicitor then certified that he had explained the nature and effect of the declaration.

When the company went into liquidation the bank sought an order for possession.

The judge had found that Mrs Mann was entitled to an equitable interest in the property and that a presumption of undue influence by Mr Mann over his wife arose and had not been rebutted. Neither finding was challenged on the appeal.

The judge had further found that the bank had constructive notice of the undue influence of Mr Mann over his wife so that her interest was binding on the bank and constituted a defence to the claim for possession.

Mr John Boggis, QC and Mr J. S. Palmer for the bank; Mr Michael Hart, QC and Mr Robert Deacon for the wife

LORD JUSTICE MORRITT said that following *Barclays Bank v O'Brien* (*The Times* October 22, 1993; [1994] AC 180) the essence of the matter was whether the creditor should take reasonable steps to ensure in so far as he could that the undue influence of the husband was counteracted by ensuring that the wife was aware of the consequences to her of entering into the proposed transaction for the husband's benefit.

In the present case the true question was not how Mrs Mann regarded the transaction but how it appeared to the bank and whether the bank should have taken further or other steps.

In *Bank of Baroda v Shah* ([1988] 3 All ER 24) the Court of Appeal had held that there was no obligation on a creditor to ensure that the surety received entirely independent advice for it was entitled to assume, in the absence of clear indications to the contrary, that the solicitor who did advise was honest and competent.

The authority of that decision had not been shaken by the *O'Brien* case. The proposition had been reaffirmed by the Court of Appeal in *Midland Bank v Massey* (*The Times* March 23, 1994; [1994] 2 FLR 342, 348).

In the present case the bank received the warranty of a solicitor that he had explained to Mrs Mann the nature and effect of the declaration. It was a matter for the solicitor to consider whether he was able to do so without any conflicting duty or interest.

The bank was entitled to rely on the fact that the solicitor undertook the task as showing that he was sufficiently independent for that purpose.

The bank was entitled to consider that it would not be possible adequately to explain the effect of the declaration without making it abundantly clear to Mrs Mann the risks she would run if she executed the declaration and the company defaulted.

Further, the bank would justifiably assume that the solicitor would appreciate the reason why his advice was being sought and the need for his warranty at the foot of the declaration to be completed.

The bank was fully entitled to think that the solicitor's explanation would necessarily include some reference to the fact that Mrs Mann was under no obligation to execute the declaration if she did not wish to undertake the risk.

In his Lordship's judgment the bank did take such steps as were reasonable to avoid being fixed with constructive notice of Mrs Mann's right to set aside the declaration as having been executed by her as the result of Mr Mann's undue influence.

LORD JUSTICE HOBHOUSE, dissenting, said that the present case concerned a transaction occurring in 1986 and was therefore covered by what Lord Browne-Wilkinson, in the *O'Brien* case, had said about past transactions: that two things had to be done.

The bank had to take reasonable steps to bring home to the wife the risk she ran by signing the document. That had been done. But it did not end there.

The bank also had to advise her to take independent advice. Here the bank never communicated with the wife, never gave her any advice and did not take any step to see that she was advised by anyone to take independent advice.

The steps taken by the bank simply did not address that aspect at all which was of the essence of the rebuttal of the presumption of undue influence. The bank did not take any steps, let alone reasonable steps to advise the wife.

It should have been entirely within their contemplation that the wife might well in fact sign the document under the undue influence of her husband which was in fact what had occurred.

To allow the appeal would fail to recognise the law as was well understood and stated by Lord Browne-Wilkinson.

His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

The Master of the Rolls delivered a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Morritt.

Solicitors: Eversheds Daynes Hill & Perks, Norwich; Mishcon de Reya.

Three appeal routes form traps for the unwary

P v P (Periodical payments: Appeals)

Before Mrs Justice Bracewell

[Reasons December 8]

The procedures for appealing under section 94 of the Children Act 1989 and section 29 of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Act 1978 were entirely different and were not interchangeable.

Mrs Justice Bracewell so held in the Family Division in a reserved judgment, giving reasons for her decision on November 10 to dismiss for want of jurisdiction the father's appeal under section 94 of the 1989 Act against, *inter alia*, the decision of Margate Justices on April 22 to refuse his application, under section 20 of the 1978 Act, to vary an order for periodical payments to be made to the mother in respect of their child and the refusal to remit arrears which had accrued under the order.

Mr Michael Phillips for the father; Miss Debora Price for the mother.

MRS JUSTICE BRACEWELL said that there were three separate regimes for appealing from a decision of a magistrates' court: (a) by way of case stated under section 111 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980; (b) under section 29 of the 1978 Act to the Divisional Court of the Family Division; and (c) under section 94 of the 1989 Act to a single judge of the Family Division.

The father had argued that, in respect of an appeal against the refusal of justices to vary an order, he could appeal to the High Court, either under section 94 of the 1989 Act or to the Divisional Court under section 29(1) of the 1978 Act. In support of that proposition he had relied on *S v S (Children: Periodical payments)* ([1993] Fam 200).

In *S v S* the original application for periodical payments and the application to vary had been made under the 1989 Act. Mr Justice Thorpe had held that as he had jurisdiction to determine an appeal brought under the 1989 Act, the ancillary issue of enforcement under the Maintenance Enforcement Act 1991 could, and should, be governed by the same procedure.

In the current case, however, there never had been any proceedings of any kind brought under the 1989 Act at first instance, and the decision in *S v S* was clearly to be distinguished.

The two regimes for appealing under section 94 of the 1989 Act and section 29(1) of the 1978 Act were entirely different and, in her Ladyship's judgment, were not interchangeable.

Under section 94, rule 4.22 of the Family Proceedings Rules (SI 1991 No 1247) governed the appeal to a Family Division judge, whereas under section 29, rule 8.2 governed the appeal to the Divisional Court of the Family Division.

It followed that her Ladyship was compelled to find that the appeals under section 94 were misconceived and had to be dismissed for want of jurisdiction.

It was highly regrettable that there remained three distinct routes of appeal which were likely to prove traps for the unwary.

The intention of the 1989 Act to simplify and unify procedures for children's cases had not been effective in respect of appeals, and the Children Act Advisory Committee might wish to consider the matter with a view to making recommendations for amendments to the legislation.

Solicitors: Walmsley & Barnes, Cliftonville; Boys & Maughan, Margate.

Appointment of sole trustee is valid under Act

In re Duxbury's Settlement Trusts

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Henry and Sir John Megaw

[Judgment November 21]

The Public Trustee's appointment as a sole trustee of a discretionary settlement was a valid appointment under section 5(1) of the Public Trustee Act 1906 and entitled him to exercise trustees' powers and discretions notwithstanding an express clause in the trust deed that prohibited an exercise of trustees' powers by fewer than two trustees.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing the Public Trustee's appeal from the judgment of Mr Justice Rattee on February 17, 1994 on an application brought by way of originating summons that had held his appointment as sole trustee of a settlement made in 1959 by John Duxbury, deceased, to be valid but as not overriding the prohibition contained in clause 16 of the trust deed that no discretion or discretionary power conferred on the trustees "shall be exercisable at any time where there are less than two trustees".

Section 5(1) provides: "(1) The public trustee may ... be appointed to be trustee of any will or settlement or other instrument creating a trust ... and either as an original or a new trustee, or as an additional trustee, in the same cases, and in the same manner, and by the same persons or court, as if he were a private trustee, with this addition, that, though the trustees originally appointed were two or more, the public trustee may be appointed sole trustee."

Mr Edward Nugee, QC and Mr Dirik Jackson for the Public Trustee; Mr Christopher Semken for the fifth defendant, Nicholas James Duxbury, solely in relation to costs; the other defendants, beneficiaries under the settlement and former trustees of it, did not appear and were not represented.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that in *In re Moxon* ([1916] 2 Ch 595), it was held that under the statutory power of appointing new trustees out of court the public trustee could be appointed to be the sole trustee of a trust even where the trust instrument expressly provided that on any such appointment the number of trustees was not to be reduced below three.

The question here was whether the Public Trustee, as the sole trustee of a trust, could exercise the discretions and discretionary powers conferred on the trustees where the trust instrument expressly provided that they should not be exercisable at any time where there were fewer than two trustees.

Having referred to *In re Hastings-Bass, deceased* ([1975] Ch 25) and *Mettoy Pension Trustees Ltd v Evans* ([1990] 1 WLR 1587), the judge held that the Public Trustee had been validly appointed but that he could not validly exercise trust powers on his own.

The issue depended on the true construction and effect of section 5(1) of the 1906 Act. In *In re Moxon* Mr Justice Sargant had said (at p599) that the section was "not merely by way of addition to the statutory powers, but is a positive and independent enactment enabling the appointment of the Public Trustee on every occasion on which a private trustee could be appointed". At p600 he had said: "Subsection (1) enables the Public Trustee to be appointed in all cases of appointment as the sole trustee."

That case was correctly decided. By deciding that the Public Trustee could be appointed as sole trustee, it was necessarily authority for the proposition that he could act as a sole trustee, notwithstanding a requirement that the number of trustees should not be reduced below some larger number.

It would be idle to appoint a trustee who was unable to act. Appointment and action were for this purpose inseparable.

Here the prohibition, although expressed as one against the sole exercise of discretions and discretionary powers, was effectively a prohibition against acting as a sole trustee.

Why should that prohibition be any the less susceptible to being overriden by the addition to section 5(1) than a prohibition against appointment as a sole trustee? There could be no answer to that question. The point was as clear as it was short. The judge's decision on the issue was wrong.

Lord Justice Henry and Sir John Megaw agreed.

Solicitors: Penningtons; Ford & Warren, Leeds.

Prison officers cannot disobey lawful orders

Secretary of State for the Home Department and Another v Barnes and Others

Before Mr Justice Keene

[Judgment November 18]

There was no implied term in the contracts of prison officers entitling them to refuse to obey instructions to admit prisoners even when they genuinely feared that the prison was so overcrowded that there was a danger of a breach of the peace occurring.

Mr Justice Keene so held in the Queen's Bench Division when determining the only matter still live between the parties and refusing to make declarations sought by the defendants, officers of the Preston branch of the Prison Officers' Association, that section 8 of the Prisons Act 1952 meant that it was a term of the contract between prison officers and the Home Office that prison officers were not obliged to carry out instructions which impinged on the exercise of their powers as police constables to prevent a breach of the peace, or, alternatively, that it was a contractual term that any obligation to obey instructions was subject to section 8.

The Home Office had already obtained interlocutory injunctions restraining the defendants from inducing or procuring breaches of contract by prison officers.

Section 8 of the 1952 Act provides: "Every prison officer while acting as such shall have all the powers, authority, protection and privileges of a constable."

Section 12 provides: "(2) Prisoners shall be committed to such prisons as the secretary of state may from time to time direct..."

Mr David Pannick, QC and Mr Mark Shaw for the Home Secretary and the Attorney-General; Mr Michael Beloff, QC and Mr Richard Clayton for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE KEENE said that by section 12(2) the Home Secretary was given the power and the duty of directing to which prisons prisoners should go.

That was one of his functions. It operated not just as against the prisoners but as against the whole world. It was at large and it therefore had to affect the relationship between prison officers and their governor or the Home Secretary.

It was clear that the purpose of section 12(2) was in fact to identify who it was that was to have the power to decide to which prison a prisoner should go. That person was the Home Secretary and the subsection conferred power on him.

It therefore seemed that the specific terms of section 12(2) had to be taken to prevail over the more general powers given to prison officers by section 8.

His Lordship was reinforced in that view by the way in which the Act approached the whole question of prison accommodation and prison numbers.

It was on the Home Secretary that section 14(1) of the Act placed the duty of satisfying himself that sufficient accommodation was provided in every prison for all prisoners.

That was not the statutory task of prison officers although there was no doubt that as responsible individuals they would inevitably be concerned about the adequacy or otherwise of the accommodation at any prison and no doubt if they genuinely felt that there was overcrowding at their prison they would feel a personal anxiety about that.

His Lordship referred only to where the legal duties were placed by the legislation.

He could also see the force in Mr Pannick's submission that if each prison officer had such an ability by virtue of section 8 one could arrive at a state of great confusion whereby one prison officer might assert that the admission of prisoners should be refused because he feared a breach of the peace but another prison officer at the same prison took a contrary view.

In that connection it had to be borne in mind that the prison governor was himself a prison officer with those powers of a constable under section 8.

Finally, while it was true that the contractual duty of such prison officers was only to carry out lawful orders, an order of a prison governor did not become unlawful simply because a prison officer took the view that compliance with it would lead to a breach of the peace.

It was not conceded by the Home Office that the fears of the officers at Preston, although genuine, were soundly based or reasonable. Moreover, the order with which the case was concerned was one requiring the officers to comply with something being done by the secretary of state under his section 12(2) powers which *prima facie* was to be treated as a lawful action.

For those reasons there was no implied term in the contracts of the defendants entitling them to refuse to obey the instructions of their governor to admit prisoners to Preston prison on December 2, 1993.

That finding was sufficient to deal with the case. However, his Lordship added a few words on the wider issue of the effect of section 8 without wishing to usurp the function of any future court.

The powers of a constable given to a prison officer by section 8 were to enable him to perform his duties as a prison officer as set out in the Prison Rules (SI 1964 No 388). That was the purpose for which a prison officer had those powers.

Those duties reflected the need for a prison community to be a highly regulated community and for the prison service to be a disciplined one.

Thus, prominently among those duties featured that of obeying the governor's lawful instructions. Consequently, while a prison officer did have some degree of discretion in the use of his powers as a constable, those powers none the less had to be exercised in the context of his duty to obey lawful instructions.

If there should arise an apparent conflict between the two a lawful instruction from his governor had to prevail.

It would of course be different in the case of an instruction which was actually unlawful.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Lees Lloyd Whitley.

Remedy for invalid arraignment

Regina v Maidstone Crown Court, Ex parte Clark
In re Clark

Before Lord Justice Glidewell and Mr Justice Curtis

[Judgment November 17]

A judge was wrong to insist that a defendant, who had just been served with a large amount of material by the prosecution and whose custody time limit was due to expire the following day, should be arraigned on the basis of holding pleas.

The Divisional Court could grant an application for a writ of habeas corpus where a defendant had been invalidly arraigned and no other remedy was available.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held, allowing an application by Paul John Clark for judicial review of Judge Balston's decision at Maidstone Crown Court on October 14 that he should be arraigned on that date.

An application for habeas corpus was also granted.

Their Lordships quashed the arraignment and ordered that the applicant be produced the following day at Maidstone Crown Court and granted bail.

The applicant, who had been in custody since July 1993, was committed for trial on three counts relating to the production and supply of a controlled drug. The trial was listed for January 1995.

A plea and directions hearing was set for October 14, 1994, on which date the prosecution served a large amount of material on the defence. The prosecution requested that the arraignment take place in any event as the applicant's custody time limit was due to expire the following day.

The judge decided that the arraignment should take place but that he would not hold it against the defendant if he put in a holding plea on the basis that he was not in a position to make an informed plea.

Mr James Turner for the applicant; Mr Nicholas Ainley for the crown court and the prison governor; Mr Richard McGregor-Johnson, who did not appear below, for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that arraignment should not be used as a mechanism for determining the right to bail if a custody time limit expired. Arraignments should only take place either immediately before trial, or if for some reason it was necessary and desirable to arraign in order that proper preparations for the trial could be made.

There might well be situations in which it was proper to arraign some little time before the trial was due to begin, so that steps could be taken by both prosecution and defence to know what was in issue and to deal with those matters. That was a proper use of the power to arraign before trial. Defeating the provisions of section 22 of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985 was not a proper use.

If everybody had been appraised of all the evidence and all the additional material on October 14 then for properly advised pleas to have been given might well have had its advantages.

However, that had not been the situation. The judge had not merely failed to exercise his discretion properly, but clearly exercised it wrongly.

Provided that the court had jurisdiction, the decision to insist on arraignment on October 14 was one that should properly be quashed or overturned or set aside in some way. Section 29(3) of the Supreme Court Act 1981, provided that judicial review was not available as a remedy to oversee the exercise by the crown court of its jurisdiction in matters relating to trial on indictment.

However, in *R v Maidstone Crown Court, Ex parte Hollstein* (*The Times* November 4) Lord Justice McCowan had said: "I do not consider it permissible for a crown court, whether of its own motion or at the request of the prosecution, artificially to create an arraignment situation with the deliberate intention of denying a defendant the fruit of the failure by the prosecution to obey the custody time limits... I believe this court is under a duty to interfere and has the power so to do."

Clearly that decision was binding on the court unless it was convinced that it was wrong. His Lordship was absolutely satisfied that the court in *Hollstein* had arrived at a just result, although he was not so satisfied that the court had been correct in law in concluding that it had jurisdiction to decide that the arraignment was invalid.

However, having expressed those doubts, his Lordship certainly could not say that he was convinced that the decision was wrong. Accordingly, the court was bound to take the view that it did have jurisdiction to exercise judicial review over the judge's decision.

But, if that was wrong, the court had canvassed, fairly briefly but clearly, the alternative question, whether the application for habeas corpus enabled the court to consider the validity of the judge's order, that was to say habeas corpus standing alone, not as an adjunct to judicial review, which was what it had been in *Hollstein* and what it frequently had been in earlier centuries.

In *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Cheblak* ([1991] 1 WLR 890) and *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Muboyayi* ([1992] 1 QB 244), neither of which came within section 29(3) of the 1981 Act, the Court of Appeal held that judicial review was, and habeas corpus was not the appropriate remedy.

However, if judicial review was not available by reason of section 29(3) in a matter that concerned the liberty of the subject, and no other remedy was available, why should habeas corpus not be available? After all, it was the oldest and in many ways the greatest of the great prerogative remedies.

His Lordship held that if the court was not bound by *Hollstein* to conclude that judicial review was within its power, and if, as a matter of law, it was not, then on an application for habeas corpus where the liberty of the applicant was in issue, the court could examine, and reach a conclusion about the validity of the arraignment, and if it concluded that it was invalid, then grant the writ of habeas corpus.

Mr Justice Curtis gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Berry & Berry, Tunbridge Wells; Treasury Solicitor; Crown Prosecution Service, Headquarters.

Power to quash committal

In re Goodship

Even if the Divisional Court did have jurisdiction to quash a committal on the ground of insufficient evidence, it would only consider exercising such a power where it was clear that grave injustice to the defendant would result if the case was allowed to proceed to trial.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Glidewell and Mr Justice Curtis) so stated on November 16 in dismissing a renewed application by Terence Goodship for leave to apply for judicial review of the decision of Devizes Justices on May 12 to commit him to the crown court on charges of having a firearm with intent to commit an indictable offence and using a firearm to resist arrest.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL, agreeing with Mr Justice Curtis that the application should be dismissed on the ground that the evidence justified the applicant's committal, said that the question of whether the Divisional Court had power to quash a committal on the ground that the evidence did not justify it would have to be decided on another occasion.

However, even if the Divisional Court did have such a power, it would have to be entirely clear that to allow a case to proceed to trial would result in a grave injustice to the defendant before the court would think of intervening by way of judicial review.

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Three cheers for Santa Claus

Children may have doubts, but teachers still believe in Father Christmas

It is said that the first three things any child says today are: mummy, daddy and it's only £9.99. So, in the increasingly commercialised Christmas, how fares the myth and legend of Santa Claus, and how do teachers handle it?

John Parker, the head teacher of Brace Bridge Heath Primary School, just outside Lincoln, says: "The subject does come up and I suppose we contribute to the myth. We tell them there is a Father Christmas. We encourage them to believe in the myth as long as possible.

"By the time they are seven, many are getting little sceptical. I have heard children arguing about whether such a person exists and I have been asked to adjudicate. But I would never abuse such a lovely idea."

Modern children consciously ask their parents for gifts and even drag them to the shops. Few have chimneys or a belief in flying reindeer, so it is difficult to see why any child after a certain age would believe in Father Christmas. It all depends on how questioning the child is. The more questions he or she asks, the less chance the myth has of surviving.



Bridget Skarski, the head teacher of Gedney Hill School, a small Church of England primary on the borders of Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire, says: "In this school we actively perpetuate the myth. I would be most upset if some of the older children tried to convince the younger ones that there was no such person as Father Christmas. It's a most enjoyable idea which brings a much-needed piece of magic into everyone's lives. But we do teach the children that in different countries such as Italy and Holland the story has different characters." Deborah Geary, who teaches eight-year-olds at Clayesmore Prep School, in Dorset, says: "Over the last ten years, I must say I have felt that the commercialisation of Christmas is having its effect and more children have given up on the idea.

"However, this year I have to say Father Christmas is back: whether this is just an odd year or that families are much keener on emphasising cosy traditions, I don't know.

"I would never tell a child that there was no such person as Father Christmas. When I am asked — and there are constant debates — I always say that if you believe Father Christmas is true then he is. I always get a perplexed look at this reply but to me it is important not to break the spell."

To some teachers it is the moral message within the legend that is important. At Whitehall Primary School, in Leicester, for example, Father Christmas visits the classes of four to seven-year-olds.

David Leaversly, the acting head says: "We don't want to pop the bubble. What we emphasise is the spirit of giving. Despite all the logical clues to the contrary, children want to believe in Father Christmas and we are more than happy to support that belief."

Stephen Orchard, general secretary of the Christian Education Movement, says: "I think the good teacher handles the subject in an open-ended way, allowing both those that are cynical and those that are romantic to believe what they will.

"In terms of the national curriculum, I think the Father Christmas/St Nicholas story comes under the heading 'Saints and exemplars'."

HUGH THOMPSON

The great science mystery

If so many more pupils are taking science at GCSE, why don't they go on to A level? **Alan Smithers** peers into the test-tube

One of the puzzles of the current education scene is why the greatly increased GCSE science entry has not fed through into A levels. Compulsory science to age 16 has led to considerable growth in GCSE entries. In 1980, in physics for example, only 31 per cent of boys and 11 per cent of girls entered for the old O level, but by 1993, counting both the physics GCSE and the "double-science" award, the proportions had risen to 70 per cent for boys and 65 per cent for girls. Not only was there much improved uptake but the gender bias had largely disappeared.

At A level, however, the sciences (including maths) have continued to decline. In 1962, 43 per cent of A-level entries were in science combinations, but by 1993, the proportion had dropped to only 17 per cent. In the past four years alone physics entries have fallen by 19 per cent, and the gender ratio has widened.

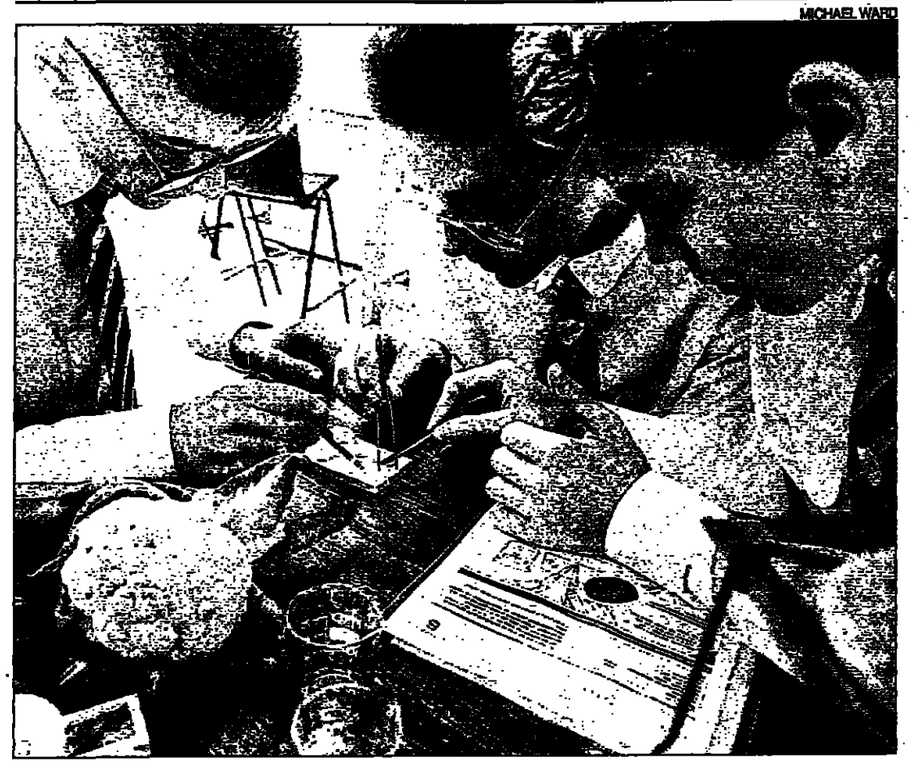
Many more young people, therefore, are studying science to age 16, but fewer are taking science A levels. John Patten, when he was Secretary of State, was inclined to blame GCSE science, but there are least three other possible explanations — A levels, poor teaching and the labour market.

It is true that the introduction of national curriculum science and the double CGSE have not gone smoothly. Slimming down biology, chemistry and physics to fit into a two-subject slot would have been difficult enough, but reorganisation became a battleground between those who emphasised "process" and those who emphasised "content".

The former held sway on the first National Curriculum Science Working Group and the Order which it produced consisted of 17 attainment targets deliberately designed to break the links with the separate sciences. It has taken two revisions, one by David Pascall and the other by Sir Ron Dearing, to sort out the ensuing confusion. Double science now seems to be emerging as a combination of biology, chemistry and physics in a close contextual framework.

Nevertheless, science for 14-16 year-olds comes in a great variety of forms. Not only is there a double-science GCSE, a single-science GCSE, and the separate sciences, but the double GCSE can be co-ordinated, integrated or modular. In 1993 there were 82 syllabuses for the double award. Although the GCSE is now coming into line with the national curriculum, this lack of consistency makes it difficult to build a clear bridge to A levels.

MICHAEL WARD



"Choosing science and maths at A level takes a high level of confidence and commitment."

But a bridge has two ends, and the problem could just be with A levels themselves. Although there has been a dramatic decline in science A levels, closer inspection reveals that it has been due mainly to the fall in 18-year-olds. The 40 per cent drop since 1983 has to be seen against the one-third reduction in the age group.

Taking the long view, we find that, with minor fluctuations, A-level science uptake has been stuck at about 5 per cent of the age cohort since 1962 (the first year the statistics became available). While much else has changed during this time, the three-A-level structure has remained the same.

Choosing science and maths, which are generally seen to be more difficult than other A levels, takes a high level of confidence and commitment. Other countries which have a broader curriculum and do not impose such a stark choice seem able to bring two or three times as many through to their equivalent of A-level science standard. It may be that with a three-subject structure, 5 per cent choosing the sciences is all we can expect, and changes between the ages of 14 and 16 may be pointless.

Changes at GCSE and the structure of A levels may not be the only reasons for the poor flow into the sciences. Ofsted, in its recent review, identified the quality of teaching as the key factor. Certainly, it has proved difficult to attract well-qualified physicists and mathematicians into teaching and, interestingly, these are the two subjects where the A-level decline has been most evident. There is also an acute shortage of science teachers in primary schools.

Flow into the science will also be affected by signals from the labour market. Salaries and unemployment rates may be suggesting that there is no real shortage in science-based occupations. The widespread impression of shortage comes mainly from the difficulty of filling science and engineering places at university. Attempts have been made to expand these at the same rate as in other subjects, but the A-level students have not been there to fill them.

There are a number of ideas about what should be done to improve science take-up. Most involve GCSE. The recent DFE consultation paper showed that more students move on to science A-levels from the separate sciences than form the double GCSE (though probably because they were more science-inclined in the first place). This had led to some talk of encouraging the separate sciences by giving maintained schools the same freedom as independent schools to offer two out of biology, chemistry and physics, and not all three as at present. Our recent survey showed that 40 per cent of science department heads would like to be able to do this.

The School Curriculum and Assessment Authority has also been asked to advise on the feasibility of covering the national curriculum requirements through the single-science GCSE and allowing schools, in addition, to offer one or more of the separate sciences.

But while there is a clear need to establish stronger links between science pre-16 and post-16 — and the separate recording of performance in biology, chemistry and physics as part of the double award would be a help here — the real culprit may be A level.

There seems to be a groundswell of student demand for more breadth. There has been a big growth in mixed A-level courses — sciences combined with non-sciences — which have gone up from 9 per cent in 1962 to 35 per cent now. But the mixture can be arbitrary without a sufficient platform for further progression in the sciences.

An increase in subjects at A level — to five, perhaps — would respond to the desire for more breadth, allow room for coherent combinations, not force a choice for or against the sciences, and lead on more naturally from GCSE. This was, of course, the recommendation of the Higginson Committee which was summarily rejected in 1988 and, however much support it commands, it seems impossible, with the present Government, to get it back on the agenda.

Even if changing to a norm of five subjects at A level is still too much to swallow, there remains a good case for reviewing existing A-levels so that — while maintaining standards — they begin where the revised national curriculum ends.

We need to capitalise on the many more young people studying science to GCSE standard. It may take changes both at GCSE and A-level. Getting the arrangements right is important to securing both a population well educated in the sciences and a supply of high quality scientists and engineers.

● *Professor Alan Smithers is Director of the Centre for Education and Employment Research at the University of Manchester. His report with Dr Pamela Robinson, The Impact of Double Science, is published by the Engineering Council today.*

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For informal discussion of the post, please contact Professor J D G Dunn on 0191-374 2062 or Dr C T R Hayward on 0191 374 2055.

Further details may be obtained from the Director of Personnel, University of Durham, Old Shire Hall, Durham DH1 3HP, to whom applications (5 copies) should be submitted, including the names of three referees, by Friday, 10 February 1995. (Candidates outside the British Isles may submit one copy only).

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BANKS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,484.20	Abbey Nat	418	+12	4.7	14.1
1,579.80	Allied Irish	252	+8	5.0	9.7
2,698.60	Aus New Z	202	-6	6.1	...
9,188.30	Bank America	2625	+112½	...	...
2,417.80	Bank Scotland†	207	-½	3.2	11.7
9,853.40	Barclays	604½	+10½	3.4	18.6
1,361.70	Bk of Ireland†	287	+1	5.0	8.3
10,486.20	Citicorp	2693¾	+131½	...	*
207.00	Close Bros	220	...	4.1	*
4,337.20	Commerzbk	£129½	-221¼	6.3	..
36,479.50	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1108½	+18¼	0.9	..
13,857.00	Deutsche Bk	2292¼	-318¾	2.3	..
174.50	Espirito Santo	815¼	-3½	4.7	4.1
99.60	First Nat Fin	59	-1	3.2	..
39,607.80	Fuji Bank Y	1367	+67½	0.4	..
411.20	Hambros†	233	-3	8.0	14.3
5,959.70	HSBC	699½	+16½	4.4	10.1
12,103.80	HSBC HK	690	-16	4.4	10.0
21.60	Joseph (L)†	410	...	5.4	11.9
697.70	Kleinwort Ben	523	-14	4.6	9.2
7,198.40	Lloyds	555	+11	5.2	10.9
7,336.70	Nat Aust Bk	548	+21	6.7	*
8,643.60	Nat West	504	+5	4.8	8.4
107.50	Ottoman Bank	2150	...	6.8	..
24.00	Rea Bros	61	...	1.9	17.1
3,228.00	Royal Bk Scot†	403	+1½	4.3	9.8
1,418.00	Schroders	1418	-17	1.6	13.0
375.00	Schroders N/V	1293	-85	1.8	11.8
166.00	Singer & Fried	85½	-2½	4.6	11.0
2,718.50	Stand Chart	282	+7	2.8	9.7
3,620.80	TSB	236½	+6	4.3	11.9
1,568.60	Warburg SG†	712	-70	3.3	13.1
5,186.60	Wells Fargo	£9502½	+168¼	2.9	..
4,019.40	Westpac	220¼	+10	2.5	..
18.10	Wintrust	213	...	6.0	14.2

BREWERIES

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
6.57	Ascot Hldgs	1½	...	...	...
4,600.70	Bass	527	+13	5.1	12.9
308.10	Boddington	254	-2	4.1	13.7
36.80	Burtonwd Brwt	177	-1	3.6	14.8
31.20	Eldridge P 'A'	165	-2	3.3	..
1,802.60	Fosters Brewing	56	+2	5.3	..
70.40	Fuller Sm 'A'	345	-13	2.9	14.2
928.40	Greenalls Grp	444	+27	3.8	21.6
217.80	Greene King	515	-19	3.2	14.2
60.20	Hardy Hansn	247	...	3.0	*
3.48	Hawthorne	150	...	3.4	13.5
105.80	Holt J	3413	-52	1.8	18.8
151.50	Mansfield	236	+1	2.5	14.3
359.10	Marston Thmpt	299	+6	2.5	14.5
101.10	Merland†	468	-18	2.9	*
7.04	Paramount	7	-¼	3.6	..
43.90	Regent Inns	298	...	2.3	22.9
4,041.20	SA Breweries†	1456¾	-12½	2.0	22.7
2,683.30	Scot & New	502½	+8½	4.4	14.2
315.50	Vaux Group	226	-2	5.6	13.9
157.50	Wetherspoon JDr	434	-1	1.9	23.9
2,860.80	Whitbread‡	547	+8	4.4	14.9
342.50	Wolverhmptn Dt	515	-¼	3.4	13.6
73.80	Yates Brost	188	-4	2.0	23.2
13.50	Young 'A'†	465	...	4.0	19.7

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
50.40	Abbey	138	-5	5.0	9.5
52.10	Allen†	161	...	4.3	19.1
132.40	Amec†	65½	-6½	5.7	37.8
18.80	Andrews Sykes	132	+13	..	..
123.40	Ashtead	410	-13	1.7	25.9
45.20	Avonside	104	+2	5.3	12.2
3.55	Bailey (Ben) Con	34	...	2.6	20.8
7.10	Barcro	38	-3	..	..
284.20	Barratt Devs	156	+5	4.8	12.1
387.90	Beazer Homes	131	+1	5.2	10.3
178.00	Bellway†	182	-2½	4.8	*
14.40	Bellwinch	32	...	...	28.1
254.20	Berkeley Gp	338	-5	2.8	13.5
26.90	Bett Brost	179	...	3.1	6.5
56.90	Bird (Henry)	218	...	3.8	10.7
12.36	Brandon Hire	83	+2	2.3	..
17.80	Br Bldg & Engt	160	...	6.2	10.0
342.10	Bryant	123	+1	5.1	13.8
45.60	CALA	105	-1	3.3	14.6
5.05	Campbell & Arm	35	...	...	...
6.02	Clarke T	49	...	3.2	41.6
110.10	Costain	21½	-1½	...	...
82.50	Countryside	108	-1	5.0	*
73.30	Crest Nicholson	74	...	2.7	13.7
17.50	Cussins	98	-3	4.3	11.8
10.70	Edmond Hldgs	#21	...	1.8	...
28.40	Eve Group	290	...	4.8	11.7
23.10	Gallford	25	...	4.8	...
1.53	Gibbs & Dandy	88	...	3.8	...
83.60	Gleeson (MJ)†	826	...	2.1	14.2
6.63	Green (Ernst)	88	...	8.7	28.5
45.10	Havelock Eurot	173	-1	2.2	15.8
319.10	Hewden-Stuart	139	-3	2.7	18.0
60.90	Higgs & Hill	92	+4	3.4	...
5.63	Howard Hldgs	22	...	4.5	29.5
3.98	Jarvis	11	...	...	...
62.70	Keller	112	-1	4.2	10.9
101.20	Laing (J)	321	-7	5.1	20.0
37.30	Laing (J) 6¼% Cv Pf	93	-2	8.6	..
11.10	Lon Clydeside	122	-2	4.0	16.9
23.20	Lovell (YJ)	58	...	2.2	6.3
53.20	Maunders (J)	213	-2	3.2	*
106.40	McAlpine (A)	154	-5	5.3	22.6
59.00	McCarthy & S	60	-4	...	...
169.40	Mowlem (J)	97	-1	2.6	..
217.20	Persimmon	186	-4	6.2	19.9
21.90	Pochins	2109½	+84½	1.9	21.1
36.90	Prowting†	125	...	3.6	19.0
84.60	Raine Ind	45	-1	8.3	9.4
227.60	Redrow	103	+9	3.2	10.2
9.24	Swift-Rwe	59	...	1.6	27.8
40.30	Sheaff Hldgs	389	+19	1.9	...
5.14	Sharco	110	-1	4.2	15.4
21.20	Simon (J)†	210	-5	5.1	22.0
100.60	Spanwest	255	...	1.2	20.5
48.70	Tay Homes	160	-1	5.8	11.8
478.20	Taylor Woodrw	123	-1	1.8	30.8
190.30	Tilbury Dougls	563	-6	7.3	43.2
5.65	Tonic Hse	55	...	2.0	28.7
14.50	Try Group	21	-1	3.8	..
59.30	Vibroplant†	109	-3	4.3	19.6
72.80	Walkerst	117	-9½	5.2	12.6
26.80	Ward Hldgs	51	-1	1.2	...
91.30	Westbury†	137	+5	4.3	12.5
25.70	Wiggins	5½	-½	...	...
301.90	Wilson (C)	159	-1	3.3	13.2
296.10	Wilson Bowdn	317	-15	3.7	14.1
483.80	Wimpey G	134	+2	4.9	20.0

BUILDING MATERIALS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
10.10	Albington	14	-1	4.5	13.3
104.80	Alumasc	338	...	2.2	*
30.90	Amberley Gp	49	-4	3.2	28.7
1,411.70	BPB Ind†	282	-4	3.7	14.5
49.20	Baggeridge Brk	124	+10	3.2	*
169.10	Barden	30½	-1	8.2	...
340.40	Berisford Intl	228	+20	0.3	...
16.60	Blockleys	67	+8	1.7	...
1,980.20	Blue Circle	272	-11	5.2	19.3
32.50	Braedon PLC	79	...	7.3	22.6
22.80	Br Dredging	130	-3	5.4	15.6
1,178.70	CRH	335	-4	2.9	17.0
2.00	Caledonian Bkg	38	...	...	4.1
107.70	Capel†	199	+1	6.9	12.8
1,518.90	Caradon	254	+10½	4.4	16.8
227.70	Caradon pf	125½	+2½	7.2	...
4.62	Cheltnm Gp	54	...	8.1	10.8
1.80	Dyson (A&J)	109	+11	4.0	16.4
8.32	Dyson 'A'	69	+1	6.3	18.4
14.80	Eclipse Blinds	10½	+1	2.2	...
59.40	Epwin	275	-5	3.6	16.3
27.50	Erith	58	-1	3.0	32.7
192.50	Graham Grp	168	-4½	3.4	15.1
102.60	Halstead (J)	344	...	2.7	15.9
747.80	Hepworth	388	+4	6.0	17.5
7.91	Hewetson	85	...	2.2	14.7
4.58	Hewitt (J)	135	-20	2.2	...
249.30	Heywd Wms	260	-6	6.5	14.7
192.80	Ibstock	77	...	1.8	...
27.70	Johnston	262	-1	2.1	31.5
30.70	Lafeststall	188	-2	5.4	11.3
375.60	Marley	131	-4	4.0	15.5
162.90	Marshalls	133	-1	4.3	11.7
437.20	Meyer Intl†	347	+2	3.9	13.5
199.70	Newman Tnks	185	-16	4.9	20.8
181.80	Norcros	104	-3	8.7	18.7
3.83	Phoenix Timber	11	...	...	...
1,284.80	Pilkington†	161	+3	3.1	31.0
202.30	Polyplas	129	-6	2.2	14.8
1,867.60	RMC Gp	948	-38	2.8	18.6
4.08	Ramus	17	...	...	...
2,310.30	Redland	446	...	7.0	20.7
14.70	Rostel	98	...	5.5	...
669.00	Rugby Group	110	-5	3.8	13.9
20.60	Russell (A)	89	...	3.2	18.3
188.70	SIG	255	-2	2.7	20.5
4.13	SWP	16½	-½	1.5	23.6
36.60	Sharpe & Fisher	177	-1	3.1	13.0
188.10	Spring Ram	41½	-2½	1.5	...
1,105.80	Tarmac	120	+2	5.7	...
17.80	Titon	161	...	3.6	*
282.70	Travis Perkins	285	-1	3.6	17.6
2.62	Tudor	24	+1	1.3	...
11.30	Unigroup	36	...	...	...
1.28	Whitehouse	48	-3	...	...
334.80	Wickes	90	+1	1.8	20.2
2,081.80	Wolseley†	757	+14	2.8	14.9

BUSINESS SERVICES

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
18.40	Anglo Utd	2	...	...	...
18.70	Ape Holo	85	-1	...	...
341.00	Attwoods	129½	-½	5.2	...
3.57	Bailey (CH)	6½	...	...	...
11.60	Black Arrow†	47	+4	8.2	7.5
2.88	Br Bloodstock	74	-3	...	65.4
73.10	Caird Gp	5½	-½	...	16.0
2.85	Chemex	8½	+½	1.9	...
16.80	Cosalt†	140	...	7.1	8.8
57.50	Filofax	217	-3	1.2	18.8
7.09	Headway	44	+4	2.8	34.2
60.40	Hosstock	254	+1	3.7	*
106.90	Leigh†	182	-3	6.0	15.8
27.40	Nobo Gp	224	...	3.3	14.4
155.40	Photo-Me†	256	+6	2.3	25.7
17.60	Pool & Gerr†	55	-1	4.0	*
173.20	Plasticbrook	173	...	2.5	20.4
1.15	Porth Group	5	...	...	...
14.80	Rodime	10	...	...	...
145.50	Shanks & McEwan†	78	-1	3.3	...
39.90	Stockist (Wm)	183	-2	4.9	14.1
1,474.00	Waste Mgt Intl	393	-60	...	14.8

CHEMICALS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
663.80	Allied Colloids	126	+8	2.4	17.7
30.50	Amber Indt	780	-5	3.4	15.5
7,187.00	BASF DM	£122½	+243¾	7.6	...
3,393.80	BOC†	710	-13	4.4	26.9
390.40	BTP	289	+4	4.5	18.9
9,257.90	Bayer DM50	£138	-118¾	6.5	...
69.60	Brent Chems	103	+½	4.8	...
455.90	Br Vita	228	-1	4.1	17.0
2.48	Cambridge Iso	19	...	...	...
51.60	Canning (W)	183	-2	5.8	31.0
1,787.30	Courtaulds†	443½	+21½	4.2	30.2
490.80	Croda	377	+16½	2.8	18.2
13.90	Doeflex	131	-2	4.4	13.2
17.50	Euro Colour†	58	-3	3.0	15.6
10.90	Gibbon	120	+5	5.8	18.8
221.40	Hickson	126	-8	7.9	11.3
7,843.70	Hoechst	£125½	+306¼	5.7	...
210.90	Holliday Chem	203	-6	2.7	16.8
5,401.00	ICI	746	+7	4.6	60.3
145.30	Kalon	108½	-15	5.1	10.3
1,336.80	Laporte	697	+16	3.8	17.6
29.70	MTM	80	...	0.8	...
115.90	Mandars	292	-5	4.3	14.2
68.10	McLeod Russell	113	...	6.9	...
16.40	Metrotect	68	...	6.5	9.0
22,738.80	Montedison	445¾	-2½	4.4	20.7
45.00	Porvair	290	...	1.9	21.8
453.40	Scapa†	191	-4	3.9	15.5
16.30	Suscribe Speak	29	...	3.0	17.1
6,648.60	Takeda Chem	760½	-8	0.8	14.2
84.70	Wardle Storeys†	340	-4	6.3	18.9
45.20	Wellington Hldg	191	...	3.4	18.5
58.70	Wolstenholme R	793	...	3.0	16.6
162.10	Yorks Chem	354	+2	2.9	15.3
279.70	Yule Catto	380	+3	2.9	21.3

DISTRIBUTORS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
28.80	ABI Les	107	-1	4.9	*
57.50	Acsil†	298	+½	2.9	16.1
24.80	Adam & Harvey†	380	+15	3.4	7.3
8.25	Alexanders	21	...	3.0	19.5
75.70	Appleyard	114	-1	6.4	20.1
11.80	Arc Et Enc	4½	...	1.4	58.8
136.20	BSS Group	520	...	4.4	18.1
7.48	Bearing Power	22	-1½	6.0	*
16.30	Beechtwy Mtr	265	+6	4.9	10.9
1.36	Bogod 'A'	28	...	3.1	9.5
154.20	Brammer	345	+3	4.7	18.2
4.41	Bridgend Gpt	16	...	1.6	..
19.50	Brit Fittings	82	...	3.4	..
13.30	Brown & Tawse	41	-7	..	..
42.20	Burdsone	40	-1	6.2	11.7
8.89	Callyns†	268	...	5.4	18.1
25.00	Cashel Pltf	26½	-1½	5.2	14.7
12.00	Central Mtr	88	...	5.0	21.8
16.70	Cook (DC)	39	...	3.7	11.8
338.50	Cowie A	289	-10	3.5	10.4
33.30	Dag Motors	138	-2	6.9	15.8
25.90	Dawsons Et	593	...	1.4	16.6
231.70	Delpont	414½	-9½	4.1	*
980.00	Electrocomps†	466	-9	2.7	19.1
38.30	Electron House	151	-2	2.6	15.6
219.30	Ellis & Everard	263	...	3.6	19.4
100.00	Eurodollar†	204	-3½	5.2	16.0
59.00	European Mrt	110	-2	5.1	12.9
128.00	Evans Halshaw	400	...	4.4	12.6
898.30	Farnell Elect	518	-14	1.9	21.3
7.39	Fife Indmar	60	-1	3.7	8.8
17.20	Gardner	16	-½	5.9	7.6
3.71	Glenchewton	19½	-½	...	21.5
6.46	Gowrings	71	...	3.5	21.5
26.50	Hallok Hldgs	72	-1	...	56.2
15.20	Hanns (Phasp)†	141	...	8.1	12.4
130.00	Heatys	272½	-2	3.4	14.6
2.87	Holders Tech	92	...	8.2	10.0
43.90	ISA Intl	110	...	1.9	13.7
2,282.80	Inchcape†	434	-2	4.3	14.4
6.28	Jacks (Wm)	58	...	..	13.4
270.80	Kwik-Fit	157	-2	3.2	18.0
278.30	Lex Service	292	-15	5.7	11.2
37.60	Lookers	194	...	4.4	12.1
13.70	Mabys Gp	14½	-2½	2.2	...
47.60	Moddesex ©	8½	+½	..	..
44.00	Norbon	423	-2	0.7	20.3
15.50	Normember	91	...	1.8	38.4
13.40	PCT	152	...	6.1	14.7
98.40	Pendragon	265	-1	3.7	16.8
40.70	Perry Gp	161	-1	5.4	8.6
38.60	Quicks Group	133	...	4.9	14.0
12.80	REA	158	...	4.7	32.7
3.54	Reece	2½	...	...	...
6.91	Ross Gp	4½	...	5.6	...
27.00	SEP Ind	33½	-1½	4.0	*
13.40	TLS Range	37	...	3.4	14.9
124.50	Time Products†	235	-1	4.7	15.8
69.90	Vardy (Reg)	151	...	3.8	14.3
34.80	Wholesale Ftgs	245	-2	6.0	*
26.30	Wills Gp	15	+1	4.2	8.4
59.10	Wilson†	71	+5	1.1	23.9
18.70	Wyko	58	+2	1.1	...
11.30	Young (H)‡	68	-½	6.6	*

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
128.20	Adwest	156	-3	6.0	15.9
539.10	Anstagasta	343	+5	1.3	27.7
17.70	Arnoult	48½	-½	4.6	10.1
15,657.40	Broken Hill	945	+9	2.3	36.5
10,204.60	BTR	289½	+1½	5.6	14.8
13,314.20	BAT†	432	+1½	6.0	11.3
104.70	Bibby (J)	67	+2	5.8	...
1,215.40	Bowthy Inv	46¼	-¼	9.6	..
687.40	Charter†	803	+8½	3.6	22.8
1,347.70	Cookson	239	...	3.4	21.6
11,893.30	Hanson†	230	-½	6.4	17.8
1,812.50	Harrisn Crsfld	144	-2	7.8	16.4
9,312.40	Hutch Whamp	258	+17½	2.2	18.4
3,344.80	Jardine Math	465½	+24	3.2	10.5
5.21	Jourdan (T)†	29	-1	4.3	28.8
1,147.80	Lonrho	148½	-5	3.4	40.8
37.70	Porter Chadbrn	40	-2	...	...
347.30	Powell Duffryn†	523	+6	6.2	14.9
28.60	Rosnert	128	...	7.3	14.5
3,123.20	Rothmanst	470½	+23½	5.1	22.8
29.70	Salkin A	12	...	...	4.6
2,852.50	Sime Darby▼	135	+16½	3.2	17.2
201.30	Staveley†	176	-3	6.0	51.4
191.20	Suter	155	-2½	7.5	14.8
369.60	TT Group	236	+2	2.3	...
2,527.30	Tomkins	214	+4	4.3	13.7
793.60	Trafalgar H	74	-2	1.7	...
57.40	Unidare	295	...	3.6	15.2
531.20	Wassall	275½	-1½	1.6	23.7
15.10	Webley	18	+½	2.6	*
1,814.00	Williams Hldg	314	-9½	5.2	19.4

ELECTRICITY

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,564.00	East Midlands	810	+99	4.0	63.9
1,978.90	Eastern Grp	767	+3	4.1	18.6
1,515.00	London Elect	743	+49	4.2	11.2
989.60	Manweb	859	+80	4.0	10.1
1,578.20	Midlands Elec	828	+72	3.8	12.5
6,606.30	National Powert	471	+5	3.5	12.9
1,102.20	Northern Elec	885	+104	3.5	12.2
605.70	Nthn Ireland	388	+8	4.1	9.9
1,285.60	Norweb	807	+44	3.8	10.5
3,943.50	PowerGen†	503	+2	3.4	70.9
1,258.50	Hydro-Elect	328	+3	5.0	18.2
2,749.90	Scottish Power	337	+4	4.8	10.5
1,183.80	Seeboard†	472	+82	3.3	12.5
812.70	Sth Wales	851	+77	4.3	11.4
1,008.00	Sth Western	855	+90	3.7	11.2
2,157.20	Southern Elec	786	+35	3.9	11.5
1,433.80	Yorkshire Elect	887	+78	4.5	13.4

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
66.00	Acorn Comp	98	...	...	...
72.40	Admiral	635	...	1.3	19.5
92.50	Alba	196	-2	3.3	15.2
155.80	Amstrad	134	-2½	2.3	...
24.50	Arlen	33	+2	...	...
256.90	Astec	83½	+½	1.4	17.1
29.70	Autect	126	-2	2.8	11.8
1,190.60	BICC†	337	+5	7.1	21.2
28.00	Bowles Hullier	244	-4	5.9	*
5.94	Berkeley Bus	7½	...	...	...
129.00	Bick	423	-6	3.5	*
536.30	Boothope	288	+8	3.0	16.6
4.29	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	16½	...	1.9	9.6
38.70	CML Micro	208	-3	3.8	13.3
48.30	Chloride	20¼	-1½	0.6	56.4
19.00	Copyconnt	180	+75	3.0	*
327.70	Cray Elect	157	+7½	1.8	18.3
64.40	Critchley†	460	+1	2.3	19.0
615.90	Dada Bs Syst	324	+31	0.6	23.7
578.80	Delta	454	+5	4.0	18.0
147.10	Domino	555	...	1.9	23.6
182.30	Dowding Mills	69	...	4.6	18.5
93.80	Druck	1465	...	0.9	27.3
2,279.60	Electrolux 'B'	3200	+15½	1.7	54.8
31.30	Emess	39½	-1	0.4	...
6,835.30	Ericsson 'B'	3440¾	+68¼	1.1	30.0
33.40	Eurocopy	89	+5	3.7	*
350.20	Eurotherm	393	+1	1.8	23.3
236.70	Fokey Group	394	+2	2.0	20.8
15.10	Forward Got	183	-5	3.8	11.3
13.30	Forward Tech	39	-2	2.4	8.1
7,458.20	GEC	272	+1½	5.1	13.5
207.50	Gestetner	105	+3	2.9	...
98.90	Gresaby	141	-1	5.3	13.2
55.10	Ind Control	138	...	4.5	11.8
148.30	Kenwood Appl	323	-8	3.6	15.8
308.40	Kershaw (A)	880	...	3.9	41.0
5.46	Kode	58	...	8.8	...
3.95	LPA Ind	44	-1	4.5	...
53.80	MTL Inst	298	-1	1.8	18.0
123.00	Manlr-Sir	250	...	2.1	19.5
22.60	Microvitec	35½	-½	...	17.8
228.00	Mitel	216	+16	...	...
30.59	Money Eet▼	115	-2	2.3	...
7.68	Orbis	21	...	3.7	...
2.82	Pacer Systems	60	-5	7.4	21.7
69.10	Pookt	68	...	5.1	20.9
8,226.80	Philips Lmp ar	1853½	-15½	1.0	8.5
14.20	Philips Fe 4%	£110	...	5.2	...
33.90	Pico	353	...	1.6	24.2
22.80	Pico 'A' Vtg	331	...	1.7	22.7
5.58	Plasmec	120	...	3.9	...
35.18	Pressac▼	95	...	3.7	18.3
9.77	Prestwick	24	-1	...	...
56.10	Polau	250	-3	1.5	17.5
594.00	Racal Elect	212	+2	2.7	17.3
8.30	Radamec	45	...	5.3	12.3
128.30	Rodime	239	+2	2.4	17.5
7.48	Scantronic	20½	-¼	5.1	...
25.00	Silverstones	39	-2	2.6	23.2
6.18	Soundtracks	81	-1	4.9	13.8
36.70	Stilo Bus	38	-2	12.2	5.9
0.85	TDS Circuits	9½	...	...	...
3,889.50	TDK	2959¾	-46¼	1.1	...
93.30	Tadpole Tech	376	-19	...	...
70.50	Telemetrix	77	...	1.6	9.8
19.50	TGI	91	-1	3.1	16.8
109.10	Telspec	344	-5	0.9	41.6
38.60	Thorn FW	230	-3	1.7	16.8
3.63	Total Systems	36	...	...	37.4
84.00	Tunstall	256	...	1.9	...
241.50	Unitech	351	-3	2.3	27.4
18.40	Verity	9	...	...	24.2
103.10	Volex	389	-8	6.0	16.0
16.30	Waterbourne	78	-2	...	...
76.40	Whitecroft	161	...	2.7	25.4

ENGINEERING

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
23.50	AIM	168	...	3.4	44.3
171.40	APV	58	-5½	8.5	...
144.50	ASW	215	+20	3.7	...
37.70	Aero Hamble	31	...	15.1	3.1
0.08	Aerospace Eng	16	...	5.9	45.4
22.20	Alvis	40	-3½	3.2	...
37.60	Ash & Lacy	143	...	5.6	14.8
57.00	Atlas Equip	548	...	5.9	18.3
12.10	Ayrshire Metal	121	-2	1.5	14.8
48.50	BM Gp	44½	...	...	...
236.80	Babcock	26	+1	...	...
64.10	BWIt	134	-1	6.2	20.5
121.10	Baynes (Charles)	84	...	2.6	21.5
8.43	Beauford	35	-1	...	...
1.80	Billam (J)	111	...	6.0	8.9
189.10	Bodycotet	311	...	2.2	21.2
2.80	Booth Inds	70	...	...	...
12.60	Bramey	16	...	4.1	18.3
88.80	Bolderi	157	...	3.2	...
1,821.10	Br Aerospace	426½	+8	2.6	37.6
3,158.20	Br Steel†	158½	+2½	2.8	18.9
56.90	Bronsgrve Ind	92	...	6.1	11.7
4.75	Brooks Tool	12½	...	...	...
191.20	Bullough	158	...	4.8	26.0
25.60	Burnfield	73	-1	3.2	31.3
12.10	CI Group†	14	-1	2.7	...
158.00	Carclo Eng	259	+2	4.4	18.9
98.80	Cartiagent	144	-5	2.5	17.7
18.80	Chamberlin Hill	150	-5	5.6	9.5
60.10	Chesterling	298	+16	4.2	...
14.20	Clyde Blowers†	181	...	3.1	...
244.50	Cobham	324	-10	3.0	16.2
4.15	Cohen (A)	535	...	0.8	...
90.60	Concentric	183	-1	4.2	...
63.50	Cook (Wm)†	243	+8	3.9	11.4
125.90	David Brown	219	-1	3.7	15.4
91.50	Dobson Park	73	-6	6.7	*
174.00	EIS†	380	-2	4.1	15.3
35.86	Elliott (B)†	99	-1	2.5	14.8
56.20	Expamet	89	...	3.7	63.1
876.00	FKI	151	-1	3.5	17.5
94.70	Fenner†	137	-3	1.4	...
6.48	Ferraris	26	-5	...	...
27.30	GB Int†	74	+1	4.2	13.5
4.65	Garton Eng	122	...	4.7	...
697.90	Glynwed	336	+4	4.3	19.7
34.30	Graystone	12½	...	2.4	10.8
79.10	Hadex Miles	72	+3½	3.5	18.5
9.34	Hadleigh	129	-2	2.4	14.6
52.80	Hall Eng	165	-10	6.1	12.9
430.50	Halma	219	-3	1.3	25.2
34.30	Hampton Ind	56	...	4.6	10.4
3.90	Hay (Norman)	26	...	...	...
44.60	Hill & Smith	134	+2	5.4	14.5
40.80	Hopkinsons	52	-1	3.1	...
14.20	How Gp	34	...	2.8	...
250.20	Howden	85	...	3.5	14.1
161.00	Hunting†	185½	...	7.6	28.6
121.10	Hunting Tec	438	...	1.5	20.0
1,808.60	IMI	318	...	4.0	27.0
56.80	Johnson & FB	40½	+3	...	...
1,048.10	Johnson Matt†	547	-2	2.8	28.4
7.71	Jones Stroud	30	...	...	...
8.97	Kelsey Ind	282	-2	3.4	...
10.70	Lincat	264	+6	3.3	16.5
3.30	Locker (T) A†	11	-1	4.5	..
56.40	ML Hdgst	35	-1	4.1	12.2
7.13	MS Ind	36	...	7.2	15.7
22.60	Mang Bronze	137	...	3.6	10.7
374.00	McKechnie†	384	-20	4.8	22.6
165.70	Meggitt	76½	-½	6.4	12.3
84.50	Metalr	104	-1	4.5	17.3
30.20	Metsec	131	...	2.9	18.2
170.70	Molins	502	-2	3.9	10.1
689.20	Morgan Cruci	315	-4	5.1	15.3
23.90	Morris Ashby	205	...	3.8	14.6
8.59	Neepsend†	35	...	4.5	17.6
13.20	Neolonics	51	...	6.4	11.8
2.09	Newtrak (L)	45	...	..	..
19.30	OMI Intl▼	39½	+½	5.5	..
164.60	Oxford Inst	338	+1	1.9	19.8
216.40	Powerscreen†	247	+1½	3.8	10.4
28.60	Prospect Indst	13½	-¼	7.7	7.0
0.99	Radiant Metal	73	...	..	..
33.60	Ransomes	59	-4	..	..
28.00	Record	84	...	5.4	18.9
147.40	Renold	274	+1	3.0	23.1
122.50	Renold†	184½	-½	2.0	25.8
4.86	Richards (Leics)	58	+6	4.8	41.5
27.70	Richardson West	77	...	5.3	16.9
2,108.70	Rolls-Royce†	172	-1	3.6	30.3
144.20	Rotork	165	-3	3.3	16.8
30.50	Rubicon	140	+1	4.1	15.4
247.10	Senior Eng	82	+1	5.2	13.4
26.60	Servomex	266	...	3.1	28.4
2,294.10	Siebe	536	-11	2.7	17.1
136.10	Simon Eng	87	...	..	..
41.50	Six Hundred†	77	...	2.4	26.6
725.00	SKF 'B'	1137½	+50	..	..
1,293.40	Smiths Ind†	432	-10	3.8	16.6
352.40	Spirax-Sarco	453	...	2.7	19.3
63.80	Sterling Ind	228	-1	3.9	14.6
1,736.30	TI	371	+10	3.9	20.5
7.35	Tasley (E)	102	-15	7.0	16.3
58.00	Transfer Tech†	60	+1	6.9	8.6
83.50	Tripler Lloyd	129	+3	6.9	..
36.90	Utd Inds▼	16½	...	6.8	..
510.80	VSEL	1345	+7	3.3	12.0
22.20	Vosson	15	-½	..	..
583.40	Vickers	177	-1	2.5	18.7
102.10	Victaulic	231	-3	4.4	12.7
11.20	Villers Grp	9½	...	..	..
218.40	Vistect	530	+9	1.9	13.9
230.30	Vesper Thorny†	722	-3	3.3	15.6
210.20	Wagon Ind	453	-5	5.1	22.7
535.90	Weir	273	...	3.0	16.3
49.70	Wellman	41	-1	3.1	66.3
85.10	Whatman	370	+1	3.5	13.6
37.60	Whessoe	128	+29	2.2	..

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
7.82	AAF Inds	34	+2	..	..
13.60	Airflow Stream†	159	...	3.1	15.6
127.40	Avon Rubber	479	-13	4.4	*
627.80	BBA	203	+6	2.8	..
182.50	BSG†	55½	-1	7.2	34.7
11.10	Benson Group	8½	-1	4.9	11.7
47.40	Bostrom	380	...	2.5	17.1
15.10	Boustead	23	...	5.5	*
24.70	Cavendish	11½	-1	1.6	11.7
31.80	ERF	324	...	1.6	..
57.50	First Tech	370	+40	1.8	21.2
2,071.60	GKN	597	-14	4.3	34.9
17,141.90	General Mtr	2412½	...	2.1	..
10,579.80	Honda Motor	1086	-11¼	0.4	..
489.60	Laird▼	348	-1	3.9	16.7
6.80	Leaders	345	-5	..	..
1,586.00	Lucas†	199	+4	4.4	..
99.60	Mayflower	50	-1	3.5	20.3
31.20	Midshires	62	-6	..	8.6
26.90	Syltone	161	-2	3.9	17.6
636.50	T & N	158	-4	8.6	13.8
162.40	Trinity Hldgs†	316	+3½	2.6	22.8

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
2,533.50	AB Food	563	+7	3.6	11.5
146.30	Acatos & Hutch	264	+16	4.4	*
318.40	Albert Fisher†	45	+2	10.3	15.3
18.50	Banks (S C)	215	+3	5.7	8.2
72.60	Barr (AG)	380	+10	2.2	24.5
6.98	Bensons Crsp	38	...	7.1	*
901.70	Booker†	402	+12	6.8	14.8
28.30	Borthwick†	49	-½	3.3	23.3
22.10	CPL Aromas†	182	-3	1.8	19.4
3,336.00	Cadbury-Schw	400	-18	4.8	13.2
15.70	Carrs Milling	229	+4	3.5	*
13.60	Chadwick	143	+1	7.4	11.7
12.50	Dalepak	108	+2	1.7	..
960.10	Dalgety†	418	-1	6.3	11.7
4.48	Daniels S	54	...	0.7	..
290.20	Devro	215	+2	3.6	14.5
16.50	Everest	65	...	4.8	24.4
1.11	Farringford	4¼	...	..	..
65.80	Finlay (James)†	66	+5	7.9	9.0
16.90	Global	14	...	4.5	12.8
19.00	Grand Central	48	...	..	..
253.10	Hazlewood Fds†	109	+½	7.7	6.8
1,221.30	Hillsdown†	176	+3	6.2	12.5
87.90	Hobson	22½	...	..	..
36.90	JLI Group	89	-1	8.9	12.3
59.60	Linton Park	348	-12	6.3	9.9
146.20	Matthews (B)	118	-1	2.9	14.2
442.00	Mann ED & F	172	+6	6.4	8.3
91.50	Nichols (JN)	291	-2	3.2	14.8
1,224.80	Nthn Foods	213	+10	5.3	10.8
6.45	Nthnbrn Fn	10½	-½	..	..
3.67	Pascoe's	24	-4	..	..
82.70	Perkins Food	67	...	8.3	11.2
3.61	Scotty Farm	84	+1	3.1	8.5
26.90	Sims Food†	78	+1	12.8	..
1,504.00	Tate & Lyle†	418	+14	4.3	9.6
19.30	Treat	203	-1	2.5	16.5
791.90	Unigate†	338	+19	6.5	9.2
9,251.90	Unilever†	1138	+50	2.8	18.4
11,646.00	Unilever (NV)	7250	+180¼	3.0	14.7
1,709.50	Utd Biscuits†	325	+7	5.9	26.5
15.70	West Trust	37	+2	8.6	25.6
46.60	Yorkshire Food	103	-1	4.0	12.2

HEALTHCARE

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
298.60	AAH†	333	-4	6.7	11.7
491.80	Amersham†	852	-12	2.3	17.9
23.70	Aragon	51	-1	..	..
34.10	Assoc Nursg	266	-7	1.6	12.1
70.30	Bespak	278	+4	4.6	14.3
22.10	Care UK	5½	...	..	..
44.40	Celsis	74	...	..	..
63.20	Chiroscience	93	...	..	..
42.00	Cortecs	38	-9	..	..
80.30	Community H	242	-2	4.1	14.9
55.00	CrestaCare	28	-1	3.3	..
26.00	Enviromed†	113	-4½	1.8	..
9.09	Ferraris Group†	86	...	3.2	*
64.90	Goldsborough	148	+4	2.0	..
17.70	Greenacre	10	...	4.2	13.3
12.80	Intercare Gp	45	+2	10.4	*
35.00	Isotron	280	-2	2.1	..
222.00	Life Sciences	128	-2½	4.0	12.7
287.80	Lon Intl	85	...	..	..
34.40	Nestor-BNA	46	...	8.6	11.4
4.34	Premier Health	1½	...	..	..
35.40	Quality Care	253	-2	2.2	14.7
88.08	Scholl	132	-11½	6.1	12.7
131.70	Seton Health▼	318	+1	2.7	16.2
10.20	Shield Diag	55	-2	..	..
1,659.50	Smith & Nephw	152½	+2½	4.1	16.9
1.40	Specialeyes	9	...	..	..
250.60	Takare	200	+2	1.3	17.4
444.70	UniChem▼	359	+4	3.3	13.9
173.40	Wesl Hlthcare	340	...	1.7	*

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
49.10	Alexgroup	205½	-15½	2.8	12.7
10.00	BLP Group	151	-1	0.8	41.4
2.95	Bilston Batsd	35	...	..	..
39.60	Cowell Pkr 'A'	98	...	7.3	21.9
8.23	Creighton Nt†	178	+2½	5.4	12.5
49.40	Denby Group	148	-2	2.6	*
6.56	Gestetn	135	...	3.9	..
8.52	Llanhearst	4½	-¼	5.3	..
39.70	Maybom	185	-1	4.0	12.3
147.10	Oritlame Intl	275	...	4.9	12.3
23.70	Osborne & Little†	388	-11½	2.4	11.8
189.80	Paterson Zoh	449	...	3.8	13.0
65.40	Paterson Zoh 'A'	419	...	4.1	12.1
2,189.60	Reckitt Colm▼	585	+32	3.9	14.8
22.40	Relyon	247	-1	2.7	45.1
91.90	Silentnight	198	-4	5.1	12.4
19.20	Stoddard†	29	-3	6.9	10.9
13.60	Tomkinsons†	209	-1	6.9	..
9.47	Victoria Carpet	140	...	4.9	7.5
102.30	Walker Greenbk	106	...	4.0	18.9
404.00	Watrfd Wdgwd	57	-1	...	44.4
3.10	Wood (Arthur)	155	...	2.4	31.2

INSURANCE

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
531.10	Alex & Alex†	1212½	+12½	5.5	..
3,740.40	Am Gen	1787½	+37¼	4.2	..
60.10	Angerstein	89	-5	1.7	73.4
20.80	Archer	57	-1	3.2	..
55.40	Bankstock	82	+1	8.1	*
748.90	Britannic	385	-13	4.1	..
82.80	CLM Insce	96	-1	1.8	83.6
3,403.50	Com Union	527	+30	4.7	19.9
49.40	Delian	97	-1	0.8	..
112.50	Dom & Gen	1055	...	2.1	17.7
107.50	FAI	36	+3	1.4	..
65.50	FBD IE	162¼	+¼	4.2	7.6
57.10	Fenchurch Grp	160	...	6.5	..
29.20	Fletcy Lsdr	87½	-2	1.7	62.9
2,405.40	Gen Accident	531	+30	6.6	8.6
1,377.60	GRE†	180½	+3½	5.4	20.2
60.00	HCS Lloyds	32	-1	1.8	77.5
161.90	Heath C E†	246	+3	8.1	..
96.40	Hibernian IE	187	+¼	5.2	7.0
32.40	Hiscox Select	108	+1	1.7	..
118.10	Independent	365	+28	4.1	7.2
543.50	Irish Life	179	-3	6.5	16.7
158.50	JIB Group	124	+4	7.8	11.4
2,107.00	Legal & Gen	430	+1	6.0	17.1
3,508.70	Liberty Lifet	1471½	+28½	7.1	5.6
278.60	London Ins Mkt	99½	-2½	2.5	34.7
125.10	Lloyd Thomp	191	-3	8.1	10.6
2,234.20	Lloyds Abbey	180	+2	7.2	9.7
82.70	Lombard Ins	178	...	5.5	10.8
361.50	Londe & Man	289	+8	6.8	14.8
278.80	London Ins Mkt†	99½	-2½	2.5	34.7
98.10	Lowndall Lnbr†	182	-6½	6.0	10.0
3,644.40	Marsh McLn	4943¼	+143¼	3.8	..
38.60	Mapfrend	96	-2	..	..
73.10	Nelson Hurst	175	...	4.0	17.5
52.20	New London Cap	87	...	1.4	..
34.80	Orial	182	-5	6.1	*
14.90	Premier Trust	75½	-2½	3.1	..
14.70	Premium Under	111	-1	..	..
5,947.00	Prudential	313	...	5.4	13.5
10.80	PWS	35	-1	10.7	5.8
378.60	Refuge	241	-7	6.0	17.7
1,829.30	Royal	281	-3	4.0	5.8
824.60	Sedgwick	151	...	5.0	17.1
57.50	Steel Burrill	120	...	8.4	..
36.90	Stirge Hldgs	73	-3	5.3	..
2,483.60	Sun Alliance	307	+5	8.1	8.5
28.80	Syndicate Cap	89	...	1.8	70.9
109.70	Trade Indemnty	60	...	1.9	13.4
1,015.40	Transatlantic	336	-1	4.5	30.4
356.70	Utd Friendly	435	+2	4.9	22.3
577.90	Willis Corroon†	138	-1	6.0	18.3
7.77	Windsor	23	-1	2.8	..

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,929.70	3i	331	-2	2.8	..
41.00	Abtrust Emrgng	82	+1	0.3	..
32.80	Abtrust High Inc	82	...	8.7	..
93.70	Abtrust N Dawn	217	+5	0.5	..
864.40	Alliance	1715	+25	3.5	..
207.20	American Trust	249	+1	2.7	..
470.50	Anglo & O'seas	412	+6	2.2	..
42.20	Baillie Gifford Sh	147	+2	..	..
285.00	Bankers	184	+6	2.7	..
56.70	Bareng Em Eu	45¾	...	0.3	..
160.60	Bareng Tobee	313	-4	2.6	..
11.50	Berry Starq	222	...	1.2	..
341.60	Br Assets†	89	+2½	6.1	..
119.70	Br Empire Sect	90	...	1.3	..
4.26	Br Empire Wts	32	...	..	..
624.00	Br Invt	200	...	3.1	..
66.00	BrasiRen	105½	+½	0.3	..
144.60	Brunner	226	-3	2.0	..
67.60	BZW Conv	192	-1½	7.5	..
74.60	Candover	333	...	4.2	..
102.00	Central Euro Gwth	51	-1	..	..
33.70	China & Eastern	165	+2	2.7	..
40.70	Coal Assct	186	-1	2.0	..
5.84	Dolce Inv Inc	80	...	12.4	..
46.50	Derby Cap	303	+15	..	..
18.30	Derby Inc	160	...	12.3	..
6.85	Drayton Blue†	70	-1	15.0	..
45.60	Drytn Eng Intl†	93	-1	1.1	..
162.40	Drytn Far East	140½	+4½	0.6	..
202.20	Dunedin Inc G	632	+9	5.2	..
35.40	Dunedin Japan	88½	...	..	..
50.70	Dunide Smlr	302	+1	3.8	..
2.92	Dunedin Wts	36½	...	..	..
248.00	Dunedin Wrldw	742	+9	1.6	..
265.30	Edin Dragon	100½	-1	..	..
41.60	Edinburgh Incrt	59½	+1	..	..
872.60	Edinburgh	297	+5	3.7	..
15.90	EFM Japan	159	+1	..	..
553.90	Electra Inv	320	+4	2.9	..
171.80	Electric Gen	211	...	2.1	..
8.16	Eng & Caledon	182	+1	2.7	..
1.42	English Scot	108	-2	..	..
68.80	European Assct	276	...	2.1	..
79.20	Fidlty Euro Val	152	...	0.2	..
123.00	Fidlty Jap Val	82	+2½	..	..
37.20	Fastery 'A'†	155	...	2.4	..
26.50	First Spanish	78	+½	0.4	..
188.60	Fleming Amer	281	+6	0.5	..
44.90	Fleming Clvrsast	74½	+5	0.8	..
3.95	Fleming Ch Wts	33	+5¼	..	..
110.00	Fleming Claver	199	-1	3.5	..
196.60	Fleming Cntl	201	-1	0.9	..
156.20	Fleming Em Mkts	161½	-3	..	..
81.60	Fleming Enlp	204	+2	2.9	..
502.00	Fleming F East	332	+3	0.6	..
44.40	Fleming Fledg	352	+½	1.1	..
31.10	Fleming Hi Inct	96	+1	5.8	..
76.40	Fleming Indient	91	-2½	0.6	..
7.56	Fleming In Wts	45	-3	..	..
28.00	Fleming Intl	35	-1	12.7	..
432.20	Fleming Japan	250	+3	..	..
397.40	Fleming Merc†	275	+½	3.0	..
383.80	Fleming Overs	289	+7	1.8	..
1,382.60	Foreign & Col	132½	+3½	1.7	..
42.50	For & Col Inc Gwth†	99	+3	1.8	..
130.80	Frgn Emg Mkts	130½	+3½	..	..
65.30	Frgn Enterprise	69½	-1	1.1	..
131.70	Frgn Eurotst	218	-1	0.7	..
48.00	Frgn German	117	+1	0.5	..
359.10	Frgn Pacific	312	+14½	1.0	..
57.80	Frgn PEP1	122	...	3.6	..
167.00	Frgn Smaller	159½	-2	1.5	..
46.70	Frgn US Smlr	93	-1	..	..
3.85	Fulcrum Cap	24	...	..	..
5.17	Fulcrum Inct	45	...	23.5	..
12.00	Falcomm Zero	13½	-½	..	..
95.00	Gartmore Brit	190	...	4.8	..
21.60	Gartmore Eurot	127	+1	0.9	..
29.20	Gartmore Shrd†	86	-½	14.4	..
39.50	G'more Smlr Cos	305	+1	3.5	..
22.90	Gcard Inc Inv	99	-1	10.5	..
27.00	Gest Cons Cap	149	+1	..	..
38.00	Gest Inct	105	...	10.4	..
34.90	German Inv	89½	+1½	0.1	..
88.90	Gov Asian Sm Co's	237	+7	0.1	..
42.90	Gov Emg Mks	120	+4	0.3	..
34.90	Govett Am Smlr	140	+1	..	..
18.30	Gov Glob Smlr	84	...	..	..
39.20	Govett High Inct	82	-2	7.0	..
681.10	Govett Oriental†	379	+5	0.4	..
232.70	Govett Strategict	237	+1	3.6	..
45.50	Greenfriar	404	-3	2.1	..
0.81	Gresham House	19	...	..	..
147.30	GT Japan	236	+3	0.7	..
79.10	H Govett Smlr Co	119½	-2½	1.1	..
30.50	Hend High	117	...	6.1	..
46.30	Hend Strats	277	+½	0.2	..
58.50	Herald	90	-2	..	..
103.10	HTR Jap Smaller	103	+1	0.5	..
0.45	I&S Ent	15	+½	..	..
26.70	I&S UK Smllr†	99	-2	3.5	..
304.30	Inv Capt	123	+5	5.2	*
	Inv Biotech	97	...	..	..
	Inv Wts	32	-1	..	..
34.50	INVESCO Korea	150	+1	..	..
27.30	J Fry 2nd Ut	94	+4	8.5	..
10.00	J Fry Euro U	94	...	6.4	..
136.50	JF Fledg Jap	220	...	..	..
25.70	Jupiter Intl Grn	102	-3	4.2	..
162.00	Kiwi Chl	200	+1	3.2	..
35.80	Kiwi E Mkt	127	+4	..	..
33.30	Kiwi End	111	+2	..	..
370.00	Kiwi Eon Prvt	74	...	1.4	*
24.00	Kiwi Euro Wts	24	...	..	..
24.00	Kiwi H Inct	80	...	11.9	..
183.70	Kiwi Orsess	229	+3	1.9	..
16.60	Kiwi Smlr	126	+1	3.1	..
133.00	Latin American	147½	-1½	..	..
186.40	Law Debenture	733	+2	3.3	..
21.40	Lazard H Inct	94	-1½	8.5	..
19.90	Lloyds Sm Cap	81	+1	..	..
6.99	Lloyds Sm Div	38½	...	15.8	..
27.00	Lloyds Sm Pkg	110	+1	4.0	..
51.80	Lon St Lawrence	158	+1	4.9	..
37.40	Lon Smaller Co's	82	-2	4.8	..
65.30	Lowland†	284	-2	4.1	..
219.80	Lyderhorn	1387½	...	1.7	..
53.80	M&G 2nd Dual Cap	538	+18	..	..
13.50	M&G 2nd Dual Inc	135	...	22.2	..
111.30	M&G Dual Cap	2618	+18	..	..
16.70	M&G Dual Inc	290	+2	30.3	..
65.40	M&G Inc Growtt	65	...	9.4	..
70.90	M&G Inc Inv 1st Cap	28½	+½	..	..
50.00	M&G Inc Inv 1st Inct	38½	...	16.8	..
173.50	M&G Inc Package†	119	...	5.2	..
134.30	M&G Inc Zero Div	54½	+½	..	..
41.10	M&G Rec Cap	30½	...	..	..
617.90	M&G Rec Genrel	61¾	-½	7.9	..
41.10	M&G Rec Inc	30½	-½	15.9	..
145.90	M&G Rec Pacge	130	+1	3.7	..
99.70	M&G Rec Zero Div	74	+½	..	..
23.80	M Curre Euro	103½	-½	0.4	..
56.80	M Curle Pac	136	...	0.3	..
100.80	Majedie†	182	...	3.4	..
11.30	Mansion	55	...	..	..
396.00	Merc Wld Mg	93	-2	..	..
283.90	Merchants	258	-3	5.4	..
474.40	Mercury Euro Pvt	82½	+2	0.9	..
31.60	Mercury Wts	27½	-½	..	..
24.70	Mercury Wld Wts	29	-1	..	..
396.50	Monks Inv Tst	511	+3	1.7	..
51.60	Mong Smr Inct	130	+3	4.6	..
1.94	Mong Wts	40	...	..	..
63.50	Mong Latn Amer	89	+1	..	..
7.32	Mong Wts	57	...	..	..
30.50	Murray Eni▼	115	-2	2.3	..
17.30	Murray Emo	57½	...	0.6	..
275.20	Murray Incmt	320	+1	4.6	..
400.30	Murray Intl	333	+9	4.7	..
10.40	Murray S/C DP	162	...	..	..
7.22	Murray S/C Cap	129	+1	..	..
6.74	Murray S/C Inc	78	-1	17.8	..
1.56	Murray S/C Uts	3050	...	4.3	..
259.20	Murray Smalit	462	-6	1.2	..
75.60	Murray Vent	306	+1	4.7	..
1.54	Murray Ent Wts	32	...	..	..
1.80	Murray En Wts	16¼	...	..	..
5.70	Newmarket	16	...	..	..
22.10	Nestrog Inc	56½	-½	9.6	..
17.10	Nwlimg Cap	69	-1	..	..
130.70	O'seas Inv Tst	343	-1	1.2	..
3.55	O'seas Wts	198	...	..	..
97.10	Pacific Assets	476	+8	0.3	..
12.40	Pacific Wts	382	+6	..	..
34.00	Personal Jap	33	+1½	..	..
13.30	Personal Assets	8700	...	2.8	..
46.30	Pilot Invt	125	...	1.6	..
8.86	Piper Euro Sm	88	...	..	..
62.60	Prolific Inc	89½	+½	..	..
312.60	RIT Cap Ptnr	173	+2	1.1	..
10.10	River Merc Am Cap	27	...	..	..
7.58	River Merc Am Inct	101	-½	9.7	..
0.82	River Merc Am Wts	11	...	..	..
47.10	River Merc Cap	117	+2	..	..
31.60	River Merc Er Inc	85	-3	11.5	..
0.84	River Merc Er IncWt	14	-2	..	..
11.00	River Merc Gld Inct	83	+1	11.3	..
9.10	River Merc Gld Pf	26	+½	..	..
22.10	River Merc Tst Inct	110	...	10.5	..
1.39	River Merc Wt	23	...	..	..
31.80	River Merc Sm Co	126	...	4.1	..
1.56	River Merc Sm Wt	32	...	..	..
	Robeco	409	...	3.1	..
	Rolinco	417	...	1.9	..
106.20	Schrod Jap Gwth	85	+1½	..	..
8.50	Schrod Jap Gwth Wt	38	...	..	..
56.10	Schrod Korea Fd	879¾	-1½	0.1	..
5.18	Sch Korea Fd Wt	463¾	+1	..	..
40.90	Sch Spl Zero Div	108½	...	..	..
8.35	Sch Spld Fd Cap	29½	...	..	..
62.80	Sch Spld Fd Inct	111	...	8.4	..
21.30	Schrod UK Gwth	91	-1	2.1	..
	Schrod UK Gwth Wt	32	+1	..	..
536.10	Scot	210	+1	3.1	*
342.10	Scot Americant	153	+2½	3.9	..
54.20	Scot Asian	258	-2	..	..
4.79	Scot Wts	685	...	..	..
518.40	Scot Eastern	81½	+2	2.4	..
786.30	Scot Mtge	218	+3	2.4	..
145.30	Scot Nat Tst	91	+1	10.3	*
53.30	Scot Valuet	106	+1½	2.4	..
287.80	Second Allnce	1499	+9	3.5	*
261.80	Secs Tst of Scot†	81½	+1½	5.0	..
41.30	Selective Asset	143	-3	1.3	..
17.10	SHIRESCOT†	131	...	5.2	..
41.80	Sphere Inv	34½	+½	14.0	..
104.20	St Andrew Inv	303	...	3.3	..
193.10	Temple Bar	337	-2	5.1	..
104.20	Thmis Asian E	104	+5	0.6	..
16.90	Throg Dual Cp	483	+3	..	..
219.50	Throgmorton	72½	+1½	4.0	..
489.50	Tpton Emg Mkt	122	...	0.7	..
294.20	TR City Of Lon	144	+½	4.5	..
67.20	TR Far East†	143	-1	5.1	..
146.10	TR Pacific	109	+1	0.2	..
149.40	TR Property▼	91½	+½	3.5	..
323.40	TR Smlr Cos	181½	-½	2.6	..
37.40	TR Tech Inv	103	-4	2.1	..
20.90	Torley Tast	212	...	1.2	*
84.90	USDC Invest	232	-1	2.4	..
49.60	Value Inc Tst†	115	...	4.6	..
13.00	Wigmore†	64	-2	1.0	..
850.10	Witan	226½	+3	3.2	..
24.60	Yeoman Inct	100	...	17.1	..

LEISURE & HOTELS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
181.00	1st Choice	115	-3	3.8	..
3.60	Abrdn Stk H	30	-2	..	..
496.90	Airtours	437	...	3.5	10.5
12.60	Ald Lics	18	...	..	..
215.60	Alpha Airpts	143	+2	3.5	..
27.90	Arcadian	40	...	..	..
21.90	Baldwin	115	...	3.8	19.8
23.70	Barr & W 'A'	238	...	5.3	9.9
94.40	Bluebird Toys	215	-3	3.5	6.4
65.10	Boosey Hwks	332	-6	1.9	19.6
11.40	Brent Walker	3¼	+¼	..	..
11.10	Bristol Scotts	183	...	2.0	..
2.41	Buckingham Intl	2	...	..	..
66.60	Chrysalis	246	+4	..	..
151.80	City Centre Rest	79	...	2.8	16.0
763.70	Compass Gp	321	-4	2.7	*
82.90	Euracamp	239	-1	5.2	9.9
872.10	Euro Disney	114	+7	..	..
17.90	Euro Leisure	2¼	...	..	..
15.40	Fairline Boats	440	+6	4.5	*
436.30	First Leisure	257	+4	3.1	17.7
2,209.00	Forte	234	+2	4.0	27.7
34.80	Friendly Hotels†	174	-1	4.1	29.1
7.24	GR Hldgs†	55	...	2.5	..
2,893.40	Granada	498	-11	3.5	16.0
18.00	Hi-Tec Sports†	37	...	9.4	5.4
11.20	Hornby	135	-42	8.3	11.8
53.50	Jarvis Hotel	157½	+¼	4.4	14.1
34.35	Kunick	14½	+1	4.5	..
155.40	London Clubst	276	+3½	5.4	14.0
1,808.50	Ladbroke	155½	-2½	2.8	27.4
3.73	Magnolia	65	+1	0.2	..
78.76	Man Utd†	129	+6½	4.1	..
506.50	Mandarin Orntl	74½	+5½	4.3	19.4
27.30	My Kinda Town	11½	-½	..	..
21.10	Northern	65	-1	5.8	10.8
57.30	Pelican Gp	81	-6	1.9	16.9
62.70	PizzaExpress	117	-1	2.1	18.0
9.34	Prism Leisure	111	...	4.7	7.8
8.81	Quadrant Gp	24	+1	..	..
21.90	Ramsdens (H)	249	-5	2.3	37.3
3,385.70	Rank Org	406	-15	3.9	26.0
17.00	Ryan Hotels IE	26	...	5.0	14.8
260.30	Savoy Hotel 'A'	910	-10	0.5	..
401.20	Stakis	84	-1	1.8	30.2
179.90	Stanley Leisure	335	+1	2.0	18.9
1,650.40	Tarjang	280	...	0.7	15.7
4,329.80	Thorn EMI	1014	+3	4.3	19.2
25.00	Tollestons Hol	156	-1	0.8	41.9
62.60	VCI	161	+3	1.8	14.4
96.80	Vardon	131	+4	1.1	23.2
12.90	Wembley	5	...	..	..
8.88	Zetters Gp	135	...	7.9	..

MEDIA

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
107.50	Abbott Mead	337	...	2.2	30.5
52.30	Adscene	294	...	2.8	21.0
228.10	Argos Gp	28	+2½	..	..
7.91	Allied Radio	5½	...	..	..
1.08	BBB Design	13	-1	..	8.7
27.40	Barbour Index	162	-8	6.6	14.0
5.21	Birkdale	5½	-½	..	..
4.97	Black (A&C)	320	...	5.3	11.5
227.20	Blenheim Gp	344	-6	6.3	9.1
18.50	Border TV	181	+2	3.0	15.0
60.10	Briddlef†	369	-1½	4.2	37.5
4,407.70	B Sky B	257	-3½	..	..
54.00	CIA Gp	132	-1	1.6	21.4
242.80	Capital Radio†	333	+1	2.7	..
1,975.70	Carlton Comms	859	-1	3.8	16.4
6.99	City of Lon†	89	+½	6.2	13.6
67.50	Daily Mail	1350	+6½	1.5	32.7
976.10	Daily Mail 'A'	981½	-6½	2.1	23.6
202.50	Dorling Kind	313	+14	1.3	33.5
744.20	EMAP†	377	-3	3.0	20.8
4,184.80	Elsevier	636¼	+3½	3.0	20.7
353.40	Euromoney Pbl	1620	+2	3.3	*
4.30	Fitch	11½	...	..	..
401.00	Flextech	430	-41	..	..
61.60	GWR Gp	885	+13	1.9	*
43.00	Goto Greenlesz	163	...	3.1	19.4
10.50	Goodhead	26	...	0.2	..
46.00	Grampiant	325	-3	3.1	17.4
119.30	HTV Group	138	+4	1.6	30.4
3.42	Harrington K	34	...	3.7	..
45.20	Haynes Pub	290	-13	3.9	17.2
116.90	Hodder H'line	335	...	2.0	54.5
16.20	Home Counts	162	...	3.9	39.7
327.90	Independent	273	-15	2.8	9.3
87.20	Intl Bus Comm	224	...	2.0	19.9
6.75	Intereurope	131	...	7.4	..
198.10	Johnston Press	147	-3	1.6	26.6
11.10	Lopex	21	...	1.5	23.7
57.70	MAID	71	+18	..	..
50.50	Mogul Bulien	510	+6	2.7	26.5
154.40	Midland Ind	112	-1½	3.1	15.3
546.90	Mirror Gp	131½	-½	1.0	6.9
117.70	More O'Ferrall	362	+3	4.6	20.9
4,672.20	News Corp	251	+1	0.6	15.3
1,450.30	News Intl	210	-12	0.9	11.1
6.28	Osprey Comms	24	-3	0.5	..
3,118.80	Pearson	565	-21	3.0	19.4
75.60	Phonelnk	213	-10	..	..
72.40	Portsmth Sundt	603	-3	2.3	12.4
46.00	Quarto	250	-1	3.0	13.6
4,299.30	Reed Intl	765	-1	3.2	23.1
7,722.80	Reuters	463	-2	1.8	23.2
339.00	Saatch	154	-2	..	30.0
52.40	Scott Radio	570	+2	3.0	*
203.40	Scot TV	422	-2	3.7	28.3
32.90	SelecTV	23	-½	..	..
58.20	Shandwick	43	-½	1.2	6.5
36.30	Southnews†	237	-3	1.8	23.8
48.50	Sterling Pub	104	-7	4.4	9.8
7.09	Sunset & Vine	124	...	4.0	10.8
76.80	Taylor Nelson†	35	-½	2.2	21.1
474.60	Telegraph	351	+6	4.6	12.4
4,139.70	Thomson Corp	715	-10	5.3	35.7
252.40	Trinity Intl	368	-2	3.4	17.0
70.90	Ulster TV	675	-6	3.0	20.8
1,175.60	Utd Newspaprs	481	-17	5.9	11.6
11.30	VCI†	108	...	4.6	11.6
12.20	WACO	18½	-½	6.9	8.8
799.80	WPP	111	-1	1.2	15.9
189.50	Yorkshire TV	373	-11	..	..

MINING

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
6.21	Alex Corp	95	...	3.6	6.5
930.50	Ang Am Coalt	3693¾	...	2.8	18.5
8,197.40	Ang Am	3518¾	+71¼	2.1	31.9
1,525.60	Ang Am Gold	6318¾	+193¼	4.3	16.5
20.80	Anglo Pac Res	26½	-½	..	..
1,121.90	Ashanti	1337½	+28½	..	..
316.00	Ashton	113	-5	4.8	..
15,657.40	Broken Hill	945	+9	2.3	36.5
36.50	Bstorchik	243	-9	..	..
364.60	Beatrix	388	-¼	4.6	21.7
3.55	Bischi	34	-1	2.5	29.4
25.80	Blyvoors	107½	+5	..	..
164.40	Bougainville	41	+3	..	..
2.51	Bracken	18	...	5.0	..
64.20	Buffels	583¾	+22½	9.4	..
7.05	Bellie	3	+½	..	..
5,262.00	CRA	884	+24	2.5	28.4
	Central Pacific	44	+2	..	..
29.80	Cliff Res	41	-½	..	..
44.50	Coal Inv	76	...	..	..
12.20	Cons Murchison	196	-4	3.2	*
5,513.00	De Beers	1450	+31¼	3.7	15.2
103.80	Deelkraal	104½	-¼	3.4	9.1
20.70	Doornfontein	51½	-8½	..	..
1,819.10	Driefontein	881½	-2	4.8	13.0
14.50	Durban	623¼	+46¼	..	..
67.20	E Rand Gold	146½	-¼	14.1	4.7
100.80	E Rand Prop	76	-½	..	..
60.40	Eastern Trans	78	...	3.3	16.7
376.10	Elandsrand	388	-¼	4.2	8.9
1,038.00	Eng China Cl	340	+9	6.0	16.4
1,056.20	FS Cons	887½	-6	6.6	10.9
13.30	FS Dev	60	...	2.1	..
1,798.20	GFSA	1862½	+31¼	2.0	27.5
429.70	GM Kalgoorli	45	-4	3.3	15.9
2,993.50	Gencor	217½	+9¼	1.2	27.0
12.10	Gold Fields Prop▼	118	...	7.9	..
14.30	Greenwich R 'A'	15½	-1	..	..
17.60	Grootvlei	153½	-6	6.2	8.0
89.50	Gwalia Cons	86¼	+1½	1.1	10.1
133.80	Harmony	497¾	+61¼	..	..
313.90	Hartles	280¾	-20½	9.5	8.7
955.90	Impala Plat	1512¼	+21¼	1.7	46.4
168.80	Kidston	135	+17	8.9	12.2
190.00	Kinross	1856¾	-18¾	4.6	14.5
1,224.80	Kloof	883¾	+10¼	3.6	9.1
16.40	Leslie	102¼	+3	10.5	8.8
45.00	Libanon	275	+5¼	..	..
17.20	Medallhaus	20	...	..	..
0.60	Minegura	3	...	..	..
1,455.60	MIM	104	-11	2.4	..
3,323.40	Minorco	1475	...	2.5	..
87.50	Monarch	192	-8	..	..
55.80	NSM	93	-3	..	8.7
1,071.20	Nth Brkn Hill	169	+1	3.4	22.5
	Orex Gold	50	...	..	..
164.30	Pancontinntl	74	-2	..	..
52.40	Petaling Tin	260	...	0.5	..
1,073.20	Placer Pac	172	+11	..	..
157.40	RJB	#346	...	4.4	16.8
8,613.40	RTZ	826	+5	3.1	23.5
5.14	Rackwood	32	...	..	..
387.70	Rand Mines	650	...	1.7	..
396.00	Randfontein	647½	+10¼	7.8	8.2
453.30	Renison	228	-12	..	..
2,054.60	Rustenbg	1640¾	+21½	1.8	..
	St Barbara	75	+3	..	..
54.30	St Helena	563¾	+10½	7.8	..
182.40	Sons Gwalia	228	-7	5.4	14.1
47.30	Sthern Pacific	17	-3	..	..
455.40	Southvaal	1750	+100	5.0	20.2
2.52	Stavutn	4½	...	..	..
9.78	Stilfontein	74½	-37¼	28.7	2.5
1.59	Unisel	168½	-2½	3.5	12.8
1,033.40	Vaal Reefs	5408½	-12½	4.7	8.8
12.20	Wankie Col Z	12	-2	10.3	2.9
110.90	Welte Blake	533	...	2.9	20.1
398.10	Western Areas	987¾	+78	5.3	12.7
700.40	Western Deep	2528½	-37½	4.1	8.7
3,844.20	Western Mng	348	-17	1.1	51.8
101.30	Winkels	831¾	+15¼	5.7	11.6
61.30	Zambia Copper	50	...	..	..
82.50	Zandpan	48	-8	6.3	10.8

OIL & GAS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
112.50	Aran Energy	43	+2	..	26.0
23.00	Arcoo Intl	40	...	..	..
	Aus Oil & Gas	55½	-½	..	..
18.40	Aviva Pet	52	-3	..	..
100.80	Br Borneo	224	...	4.0	10.5
13,339.40	British Gas	307½	+4	5.9	..
23,190.90	Br Petroleum†	421½	+19	2.8	23.1
18.80	Bula Resources	2½	...	..	..
1,582.00	Burmah Castrl†	791	-25	4.3	15.7
53.10	Cairn Energy	82	...	..	45.2
451.60	Calor Gpt	268	-8	5.8	12.9
159.20	Clyde Pet	38	...	1.1	..
19.10	Copley Res	11½	+½	..	..
43.30	Dragon Oil	2½	...	..	..
7.47	Edn Oil & Gs	21½	-½	..	23.2
1,889.30	Enterprise	384	+10	5.2	..
60.80	Fairhaven Intl	25	...	4.9	10.2
68.90	Flogas†	280	...	5.8	11.6
55.50	Fortune	5¼	...	..	33.5
84.50	Goal Pet	63	-1	2.9	20.9
48.40	Gt Western Res	41	...	..	..
155.40	Hardy O & G	137½	-1½	0.9	17.6
75.40	Kelt Energy	49½	...	3.4	23.7
1,366.00	Lasmo	141½	-2	0.9	..
3.69	Lasmo Units	52	...	18.8	..
435.80	Monument	65½	...	..	70.0
8.21	New London	7½	+¼	..	..
5,537.40	Norsk Hydro	2418¾	+12½	1.4	*
6.59	Oceanics	4½	-¼	..	..
137.70	Oil Search	45	+2	..	..
	Pelnz	33¼	-1½	..	..
72.90	Pict Pet	141	...	..	..
117.60	Premier	21½	-¼	..	11.7
10.98	Presido	43	...	15.5	..
49.00	Ptroncrtl Rs	95	+2	..	..
40.00	Ramco Egy	210	-12	0.3	..
379.10	Ranger	385	+5	5.3	..
36,130.30	Royal Dtch Fl	6740¾	-9½	4.7	17.7
7,961.60	Schlumberger	3271¾	-62½	2.3	..
5.63	Scott Pickford	48	...	2.3	9.2
43.70	Seafield	85	-5	..	..
22,906.70	Shell	691	+8	4.5	20.9
3.40	Sunrise Eng Sv	#118	...	..	..
8,401.20	Total	3787½	+6¼	4.7	*
11.20	Villers Grp	9½	...	..	..
1,565.70	Woodside	235	+6	1.7	..
96.70	XCL	48	-7	..	..

OTHER FINANCIAL

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
14.50	BWD	76	...	6.9	6.2
33.90	Baltic Plc	124	...	2.0	7.8
5.21	Barry Bsh Nbl	80	...	8.0	12.1
90.30	Biotec Inv	152	-5	..	..
23.30	Brewin Dolphin	113	...	6.4	8.3
517.70	Caledonia†	623	-11	3.3	17.0
55.00	Camellia	2200	...	1.8	5.9
31.00	Caricca	19½	-½	1.6	..
146.50	Cater Allent	448	-27	7.9	9.2
139.50	Cattles	147	+3	4.5	16.5
8.19	Cinchie	35	-5	..	77.3
12.10	Claverdie	73	...	4.6	*
6.55	EFG	14	...	0.9	9.1
22.62	EFT Group	59	...	3.7	12.4
137.50	EFM	725	-3	4.1	21.8
198.30	Exco	161	-3	6.7	4.3
356.70	Gartmore	177	+½	2.8	20.5
237.70	Gerrard Nat	408	-2	6.1	14.1
243.10	Goveti	346	+11	5.4	6.7
218.20	Henderson Adt	1015	+22	5.5	14.1
438.80	Invesco	167	...	2.8	27.4
11.90	Investment Co†	43	+¼	5.1	13.7
67.53	Ivory Sime	231	...	4.1	18.0
2,157.90	Jardine Strat	228½	+23	3.7	8.1
19.70	Johnson Fry	131	+15½	1.4	..
78.60	King Shaxson	107	-2	10.9	10.2
162.20	Lon Forfaing	160	...	7.3	10.0
69.10	Lon Scot Bk	114	+2	3.9	17.3
700.80	M & G	942	+4	4.1	16.0
732.30	MAI	224	-8	4.4	12.2
	MAI 5.9% Cv Pf	88	-1	..	..
1,315.60	MAM†	724	+13	4.0	16.9
16.30	Mid Home Loan	15¼	...	..	..
291.70	Perpetualt	1095	+37	4.0	11.9
707.00	Provident	528	+5	4.2	16.8
47.80	Rathbone Bs	345	-5	4.3	12.1
65.70	Rathmd Tst	26½	...	4.2	13.4
35.20	S & U	298	-10	4.6	9.7
28.10	Sapsinkt	167	-4	6.7	8.2
238.70	CP Capital†	109	-5	3.4	7.7
258.80	Smith New Ct	414	-8	3.0	3.5
3,789.00	Swire Pacfc 'A'	368¼	+16½	2.4	..
12.00	Tenery Lee	78	...	7.2	6.7
13.40	Tno Hldgs	24	+1	0.5	10.9
24.50	Union	92	...	6.1	8.5
3.76	Western Selectn	25	...	1.2	..

PHARMACEUTICALS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
264.20	Brit Biotech	547	-11	..	..
33.80	Cantab Pharms	345	-38	..	..
167.10	Celltech	236	...	..	..
63.20	Chiroscience	93	...	..	..
42.00	Cortecs	38	-9	..	..
787.90	Fisons†	114	+4	3.0	..
19,124.20	Glaxo	636	-2	5.4	15.1
58.80	Gromodon Hdg	99	...	6.9	16.3
477.60	Medeva	171	+3	2.1	13.7
4.34	Premier Health	1½	...	..	..
35.40	Quality Care	253	-2	2.2	14.7
17.90	Scotia	274	+20	..	..
10.20	Shield Diag	55	-2	..	..
6,251.60	SmithKline†	454	+27	3.4	17.7
5,488.90	SmithKline Uts†	419	+22	3.7	16.3
5,952.60	Wellcome	685	+17	3.2	15.6
8,258.60	Zeneca	873	+38	4.0	17.5

PRINTING & PAPER

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
22.30	AG Holdings†	124	+1	5.5	11.7
76.60	API	358	+22	3.2	*
1,952.60	Arjo Wiggins	239	-20	3.4	36.0
23.00	Aspen Comms	165	...	3.8	18.8
117.00	Beasrose	368	-2	4.2	13.2
74.60	Blagden	103	-5	1.8	48.2
2,100.00	Bowater	430	-6	3.9	15.8
608.90	Bowater Inct	1662½	+68½	..	..
66.80	Boxform Intl	243	-6	2.1	14.8
150.10	Br Polythene	497	+3	3.1	17.4
6.43	Br Thornton	40	+4	18.8	3.5
165.70	Brunen Grp	120	-2	2.6	17.7
714.70	Bunzl†	168	-1½	3.1	19.8
39.90	Caplex Inds	144	-3	3.9	11.3
1,705.50	Cassaud Mtl	2115¾	-100	2.2	16.6
23.30	Cropper (James)†	282	...	1.6	14.8
1,843.20	De La Rue†	955	+10	2.7	17.3
6.78	Delyn Group	80	...	2.6	14.5
24.10	Dolphin Pack	103	...	5.5	13.2
29.70	Fairway Group	93	...	4.6	17.4
122.70	Ferguson Intl	303	-1	5.3	12.2
16.20	Ferry Pick	121	...	5.9	..
1.16	Hunterprint	2	...	..	..
80.90	Inveresk	154	-4	4.1	9.3
130.80	Jarvis Porter▼	380	...	2.4	18.3
390.50	Low & Bonar	387	+2	3.2	15.8
74.30	MY Holdings▼	55	+1½	3.6	13.1
206.40	Macfarlane	257	-5	2.0	20.7
77.60	Phys	163	+1	5.4	23.0
997.10	Porvalst	820	+87	2.2	25.0
312.70	St Ives Gp	315½	-9½	2.5	17.1
1,669.20	Sappi	1111¾	+77¼	0.5	..
7.06	Seni	9½	...	..	..
132.40	Sidlawt	193	+4½	7.1	*
782.10	Smith David	502	-18	3.1	*
1,893.30	Smurfit (Jeff)▼	353	+12	1.6	50.4
1.94	Somet†	97	-2	3.5	10.4
3.63	Unit Group	34	+1	..	..
174.00	Waco	222	-2	2.3	14.2
224.60	Waddington (J)†	217	-1	5.0	10.6
277.90	Watmough	413	-1	2.1	26.1
30.70	Wyndeham†	139	...	2.6	17.7

PROPERTY

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
64.00	Allied Lon†	92	-1	5.3	11.8
149.50	Argent	256	-2	..	..
10.50	Ariadne Ests	78	...	..	..
87.40	Asda	111	-2	2.5	19.7
206.60	Briton	235	-7	5.2	17.1
102.30	Birldyt	210	-3	4.0	15.4
2.78	Bolton Gp	15	-1	..	45.8
39.20	Bourne Estt	70½	-½	1.3	..
252.30	Bradford†	175	-10	4.9	14.7
8.26	Brighstone	118	+1	4.0	26.7
1,067.30	Br Land	348	-15	2.8	32.8
398.40	Brixton	171	-3	5.9	15.3
258.70	Burford	87	-1	2.3	28.2
97.00	CLS Hldgs	98	-1	6.2	..
62.50	Cap & Regnl	137	-2	1.5	31.0
717.10	Cap Shop Ctrs	187	-5	4.1	47.4
8.85	Cardiff Prop	228	+5	1.4	51.0
68.80	Castey Intl	24½	-2½	..	..
240.10	Chesterfield	153	-1	2.0	51.9
82.70	Chesterfield†	422	+4	3.7	18.9
45.50	Chesterton Ins	89	-1	4.6	12.5
7.85	City Site Ests	51	-6	..	..
71.40	Clarke Nickolls	7	...	1.8	14.6
6.45	Compcost	77½	...	6.3	..
33.50	Conrad Ritbl GS	38	-1	2.2	24.5
196.40	Daejan	1205	-35	3.0	14.1
3.58	Dares Estates	10¼	-¼	..	..
2.60	De Morgan	5½	-½	..	..
40.20	Debenhm Twca	96	...	4.6	15.6
30.40	Dencora	163	...	2.5	45.8
74.60	Derwent Hldgs	240	...	2.4	21.4
50.80	Development Sec	17½	...	0.7	..
23.60	Dwyer	46	...	2.1	*
9.17	Elsco	31	...	..	..
21.00	Estates Agency†	350	+25	4.6	*
5.03	Estates Gen	23½	...	..	..
128.90	Evans Of Leeds†	98	-¼	3.3	16.3
25.60	Ex-Lands	23	-½	2.3	..
26.40	Fitch Prop	25	...	1.2	..
24.40	Five Oaks†	35	...	2.5	10.5
2.88	Fletcher King	33	...	5.8	16.1
13.50	Folkes Group	43	...	4.3	..
10.40	Folkes Group nv	41	...	4.6	23.3
212.50	Frogmore	420	-6	5.1	15.2
56.60	Grainger	236	-1	3.2	*
558.60	Gt Portlandt	172	...	6.0	29.4
155.00	Greycoat	123	...	0.6	..
128.40	Hanbro Calye	38	-2	0.8	38.6
874.80	Hammerson	389	-3	4.0	31.0
51.70	Helical Bar	317	...	2.4	11.4
47.50	Hemingway	29	...	1.7	48.8
3.20	Herley Baker	20	-2	6.2	..
2.24	High-Point†	45	...	1.4	..
3,428.40	HK Land	127½	+3½	5.0	*
15.40	Jermyn	154	...	..	77.1
2,988.60	Land Sect	586	+26	5.2	16.8
3.64	Lon & Metro	8	...	..	0.3
224.60	Lon Merch Sec	92	+1	5.8	13.4
1,534.40	MEPC†	377	+1½	6.6	20.6
3.91	McInerney A	6½	...	..	..
40.00	McKay Secs	167	-7	3.9	16.5
9.36	Markheath Mie	55	-1	4.5	8.8
20.20	Moorfield Est	30	...	4.2	..
51.60	Mountview	1125	...	2.5	8.7
144.40	Muckow (A&J)†	148	-1	5.3	19.7
9.83	ORB	3½	-¼	..	..
14.70	Olives Prop	30	...	..	11.2
165.00	PSIT	135½	-1½	4.3	19.2
175.00	Peel	219	-3	2.6	41.8
159.60	Pillar Prop	141	-3	3.3	..
3.20	Power Corp	3½	-¼	..	..
13.10	Prsmes Land	5¾	...	..	..
10.50	RPS Group	70	-1	4.6	12.6
51.20	Raglan	31	-1	..	7.5
31.00	Regalian	29½	-½	..	6.5
20.00	Rowlinson Secs†	160	+¼	1.5	10.2
17.70	Rugby Est	98	...	2.9	..
56.30	St Modwen Prp	48	-1	3.1	12.0
60.60	Savile Grdn (J)	60	-1	5.6	17.5
20.50	Smits	54	-1	5.2	8.7
84.80	Scot Mett	65	-3	3.8	7.5
4.62	Secure Retire	46	-3	..	..
42.30	Shaftesbury†	87	-3	1.4	*
835.20	Slough Estates	214	-3	4.7	45.8
58.00	Southend Prop	52	-2	6.0	..
22.10	Speyhy Shops	100	...	3.0	..
23.20	Stanhope Prps	14	+1	..	..
49.00	TBI	36	...	..	1.7
75.90	Tops Ests	164	-1	1.7	41.6
127.40	Town Centre†	89	+3½	3.8	18.3
55.70	Trafford Park	82	...	4.8	*
15.00	Trenchewood	18	+½	..	..
1.78	UK Land	41	-2	..	..
103.50	Warner	213	-1	6.6	20.5
86.40	Warnford	225	...	4.4	18.4
2.01	Waterglade	#2	...	..	..
134.90	Wates	68	+2½	..	..
2.38	Whitney Mck	38	...	..	..
5.25	Wood John D	64	-4	3.9	*
2.12	YRM	18	...	..	..

RETAILERS, FOOD

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,855.40	ASDA Group	64	-½	3.6	14.5
2,842.60	Argyll†	292	+14	5.8	10.7
233.00	Brake Brost	456	+1	2.0	16.4
40.70	Budgen	25	...	5.0	15.9
3.57	Cullens	13½	...	..	..
1,242.60	Dairy Farm Intl	72¼	+6	5.1	9.8
79.20	Farepak	350	...	2.4	19.9
98.40	Fitzwilton†	38	-1	11.6	..
273.50	Fyffes	97	...	1.8	16.6
122.10	Gteest†	170	+2	6.0	..
119.70	Greggs	1050	+17	2.3	19.7
338.80	Greencore	395	+16	3.3	*
404.40	Iceland Group	147	+6	3.3	9.1
829.70	Kwik Savet	535	-9	4.5	8.7
8.77	Merchant Retail	11½	...	..	..
972.10	Morrison (W)	135	+2	1.0	15.9
206.20	Nurdin Peack	162	-3	5.1	9.0
195.20	Park Foods	123	+1	2.4	24.9
2.18	Regina Hlth	1½	...	..	..
7,089.90	Sainsbury J†	394	+3	3.4	13.9
4,872.70	Tesco	237	+1	4.2	11.9
110.60	Thorntons	172	-2	3.6	14.1
152.20	Watson& Philip	369	-9	5.1	14.5

RETAILERS, GENERAL

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
18.40	Alexon	32	-1	..	..
215.40	Allders	209	+10	4.7	*
1,008.00	Argos Plc	336	+11	3.1	17.7
180.90	Ashley (Laura)	77	+2	0.2	..
103.30	Asprey†	129	-6	5.9	18.6
65.00	Austin Reed	210½	-1½	3.3	10.6
62.10	Beattie (J) 'A'	193	-1	5.8	17.4
30.30	Bentalls	120	...	2.1	41.6
44.40	Betterware†	43	-2	8.1	4.5
11.10	Blacks Leist	35	+¼	8.0	..
353.80	Body Shopt	192	-2	1.4	18.9
4,583.50	Boots†	484	+20	4.0	15.4
9.80	Bows & Jackson	1½	-½	..	..
306.10	Brown (N)†	209	+2	2.5	18.8
935.10	Burton	65¼	+¼	3.8	31.2
22.50	Carlons	149	-1	3.4	..
176.60	Carpetright	280	-4	3.8	19.3
255.50	Chsstes Intl	158	+1	1.6	27.9
51.80	Clares	480	-3	3.4	24.4
16.10	Clinton Cards	95	...	6.2	13.8
16.40	C'ty Casuals	86	-3	6.8	24.7
186.80	Courts Furnish	795	-6	0.9	40.4
3.04	Crown Eye	190	-5	6.7	8.1
275.30	DFS Furniture†	264	+2	3.4	*
705.60	Dixons Grp	177½	+1½	4.6	18.9
6.36	Dyas (Wmsdn)	380	...	3.8	27.2
11.30	EFA Gp	9	...	..	..
17.60	Essex Furn	154	-5	3.5	*
152.20	Etam†	232	+4	4.1	12.9
287.30	Fine Art Dev	373	-2	4.9	11.4
3.78	Fired Earth	66	...	..	..
14.50	Flying Flowers	80	+9	1.7	15.4
40.80	French Conn	255	-2	..	10.8
159.10	Frost Groupt	226	-3	3.0	22.8
12.80	Glevert	56	-1	3.3	20.0
27.00	Goldsmiths Gp	123	-6	1.9	22.1
5,271.40	GUS†	524	+19	3.2	15.1
40.90	Hamleys	179	+1	3.3	17.2
3.44	Hampden Grp	23	...	5.4	66.2
413.30	Hse of Fraser	180	-3½	3.5	16.2
16.50	Hughes (T)†	80	...	4.0	13.1
2,761.40	Kingfisher	414	-2	4.5	10.9
15.30	Klienrose	110	+5	1.7	..
67.90	Liberty	303	...	2.0	..
362.10	Lloyds Chem	398	-6	4.0	9.5
698.50	MFI	120	-5	4.4	14.8
10,608.30	Marks Spencert	380½	+11½	3.1	16.9
278.00	Menzies (John)	500	-1	2.9	12.3
57.60	Moss Bros	338	...	3.1	13.4
920.50	Next	246	+11	3.4	15.1
1.58	OEM	30	...	..	..
23.90	Oliver (G)	95	...	..	23.4
17.30	Partridge Fine	78	...	4.6	10.5
55.40	Pentos	16½	...	..	..
63.20	QS Hldgs	160	...	4.1	17.5
13.40	Rhino Grp	16	-3	3.9	15.2
27.10	Rosebys	137	...	4.3	16.0
1,606.90	Sears	108	+2	4.4	18.0
63.00	Signet Group	21¾	+1	..	7.4
1,280.20	Smith WH	452	+23	4.3	23.3
242.60	Sotheby's	715	-5	3.9	30.9
894.60	Storehouse	216	...	3.4	17.4
50.90	Stylo	175	+2	1.9	11.8
105.60	T & S Stores	163	...	4.8	11.6
69.50	Tie Rack	119	-6	1.8	14.1
1.40	Upton & South	4	+½	..	..
3,383.20	Vendomet	484	+20¼	2.0	37.2
42.30	WEW Group	29	...	3.0	*
8.31	Wid of Leather	69	-10	1.1	..
60.90	Wyevale	159	-1	3.6	16.8

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,680.80	Allied Domecqt	552½	+9½	5.1	14.9
204.50	Bulmer (HP)	388	+4	3.6	22.1
70.60	Burn Stewart	119	-1	5.3	26.2
8,250.10	Grand Met	395½	+9½	4.5	18.1
8,874.80	Guinness	440	+7½	3.7	14.5
552.50	Highland Distt	434	+9	2.1	19.8
243.50	Macallan-Glen	209	...	0.7	54.8
80.00	Macdo Mrtn 'A'†	690	...	1.8	29.7
244.20	Matthew Clark	532	-4	4.2	12.5
6.85	Morgan Wt	73	...	4.3	..
161.90	Taunton Cider	148	+3	5.8	11.3

SUPPORT SERVICES

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
179.00	ACT Group†	96½	+1½	6.8	10.2
851.10	ADT	685	-5	..	..
10.50	Alphameric	39	...	..	29.7
77.70	Auto Sec	65	+5½	..	8.4
972.30	BET Ord†	104	+5	4.1	14.9
38.10	BNB Res	178	...	3.6	30.8
60.00	BPP	228	...	4.9	16.3
36.20	BSM	130	-3	6.2	11.1
3.88	Black & Edg	¾	...	..	..
163.30	Borland	575	...	..	..
43.20	Brit Data Mgt	177	-2	3.8	*
7.59	Brooks Service	83	...	3.5	..
54.50	CRT Gp	81	-1	5.2	19.7
87.90	Capita Group	161	-4	2.2	20.5
802.70	Chubb Sec	287	-19	2.9	17.5
33.90	Comptr People	236	...	1.3	53.5
32.90	Corp Services	59	...	8.5	22.2
17.40	Coutts Cnsllgt	52	+1	1.0	..
246.80	Davis Service	241	-1	4.2	16.2
8.98	Dudley Jenkns	75	+4	5.4	16.6
16.90	EW Fact	93	...	6.6	7.0
37.50	Et Data Prc	143	-5	1.8	*
1,172.50	Hays	389	-2	2.6	19.7
127.90	Hogg Robinsnt	184	-11	5.0	18.1
71.00	Holmes Protectn	25	...	..	1.5
7.10	Int Cm & Data	11	-½	..	5.6
434.20	ISS B DKr	1671¼	-37¼	6.2	1.8
42.90	JBA Hldgs	130	+1	2.3	13.2
115.60	Johnson Clean	234	+1	5.8	9.5
42.60	Kalamazoot	112	-4	3.9	12.6
29.40	Kewill Sys	242	-4	3.9	8.8
2.74	Laser-Scan	17	-1	..	..
21.10	LBMS	87	...	..	..
43.80	Lep	4½	-¼	..	..
194.70	Lopex	315	...	2.0	22.2
103.00	MDIS	103	-4	7.6	7.2
22.30	MMT Compt	198	+1	3.3	15.7
57.50	MR Data Mngt	103	-5	6.7	*
100.30	Macro 4	440	...	5.7	12.4
1,350.80	Manpower	1815¾	+18¼	0.2	..
120.00	Micro Focus	833	-52	..	10.1
40.20	Microgen	102	-3	8.9	10.2
193.50	Misys	409	-2	2.5	*
48.56	MITIE Gp	194	+2	1.4	22.7
19.50	Novo Group	27	+1	0.9	*
6.60	OIS Intl	22	...	10.8	4.1
57.90	P & P	74	-2	3.9	16.4
68.80	Michael Page	115	+1	2.5	28.2
45.10	Parity	123	-1	2.3	38.2
9.57	Pegasus	153	...	4.1	15.4
4.82	Pemat	100	+5	5.0	..
53.90	Proudfoot	68	...	6.4	11.7
32.50	RCO	305	-8	6.2	10.6
9.75	Radius	35	-1	1.2	..
12.00	Real Time	171	-2	2.9	13.0
73.20	Reed Executive	143	+7	0.9	..
33.80	Reliance Sec	150	+1	4.2	*
2,110.30	Rentokil	216	-8	1.7	22.2
62.00	Ricardo Group	140	-1	5.4	17.0
21.60	Rolfe & Nolan	178	-12	2.8	27.5
135.20	Sage Gp	647	-12	2.1	*
745.80	Salvesen (C)†	257	+5½	4.0	13.3
30.00	Sanderson Elect	78	-1½	4.6	11.3
76.50	Select App	13½	...	..	..
379.80	Serco Gp	409	-9	1.1	24.7
165.80	Sarco Gp	280	-2	1.6	25.5
5.18	Shorwd Grp	85	-5	..	..
98.00	Sketchleyt	92	...	4.3	15.5
37.80	Slot-Plus	176	-3	6.5	16.7
24.30	Unipalm	120	-3	..	..
16.60	Vistect	13½	...	3.7	7.4
10.30	WSP Hldgs	44	+1	5.4	25.8
72.10	Warner Howrd†	303	-1	3.2	14.0

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
23,428.60	BT	376	-1½	5.8	13.1
7,924.10	Cable Wireless†	361½	+1½	2.9	14.8
88.80	Filtronic Corp	164	+14	0.8	55.2
62.00	Securicor	1495	+27	0.3	37.0
739.60	Securicor 'A'	963	+26	0.4	23.8
852.80	Security Serv	778	+21	0.9	24.6
6,088.00	Vodafone†	200	+7	1.9	25.9

TEXTILES & APPAREL

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
3.00	Albion	80	-5	5.1	*
45.50	Alexdra W	135	-4	5.4	14.4
183.60	Allied Text	526	-1	3.1	16.1
2.80	Allnst	84	...	12.1	26.7
1.94	Automagic	34	...	..	8.8
231.40	Baird (Wm)†	203	-7	5.5	17.3
4.52	Bedowan (A)†	37	...	12.1	..
125.30	Black (Peter)	227	-6	2.5	16.3
10.60	Bridport-Gndryt	106	+3	3.5	8.7
24.60	Br Mohair	185	-4	5.7	19.0
2.50	Carrent	24	-1	..	..
4.59	Cassidy Bros	84	-1	4.1	10.8
83.40	Claremb Philips	187	-3	5.0	24.2
161.50	Claremont Grt	289	-10	3.1	15.6
1,337.90	Coats Viyellat	192	...	5.4	16.7
142.40	Courtaulds Text	435	+3	4.1	19.8
228.60	Dawson†	117	-½	3.2	..
181.20	Dewhirst (IJ)	126½	-2	1.7	17.9
4.83	Dixie Heal	39½	-1½	4.4	11.6
4.59	Drummond	26	...	..	11.7
1.77	Ethel	14	...	..	..
8.58	Faupel	73	...	8.6	12.0
18.70	Fornlester	146	...	2.7	*
1.69	Foster (John)	15	+1	..	..
11.20	French (Thomas)	95	...	4.8	18.8
25.70	Good SR	71	-2	4.0	*
18.50	Haggas	85	+2	4.4	*
42.10	Harlsteas	13	-¼	3.1	..
52.30	Helene Plct	26½	+½	9.5	10.9
55.00	Hicking Pntcst	236	-2½	2.6	16.6
5.33	Honeysuckle†	64	-2	5.9	*
27.10	Horace Small	87	...	..	..
17.80	Jacques Vert	187	...	3.0	16.5
4.15	Jerome (S)	55	...	1.8	7.0
60.20	Jones Stroud	348	-2	3.2	18.6
15.80	Lambert	128	...	6.7	12.1
102.00	Lamont	339	-4	4.7	11.3
78.80	Leeds†	273	+2½	2.9	*
21.90	Leslie Wise Gp	63	-3	7.9	13.3
5.63	Lyles (S)†	78	...	5.6	8.1
46.10	Marling	36	-½	3.2	..
1.92	PEX	10	...	..	..
14.00	Parkland†	158	-1	4.0	9.4
378.30	Pentland	105	+2	3.4	20.8
14.50	Pittard†	67	-1	3.3	..
115.80	Readicut	59½	...	7.2	10.0
11.00	Rexmore†	71	...	4.9	7.5
9.80	Richards	41	-2	8.2	*
2.25	SEET	56	+3	..	..
94.10	Sherwood Gp	84	...	4.5	9.8
8.35	Shiloh	143	...	3.1	8.7
52.80	Sirdar	98	...	6.9	14.2
46.30	Stirling Gp	53	-4	4.7	14.5
34.10	Strong & Fisher	20	...	6.2	13.7
15.40	UK Safety	40	...	8.1	9.8
7.89	Ulster (Frank)	114	...	7.7	8.7
35.90	Vvel	65	...	2.4	16.8
7.71	Wensum	103	...	3.5	15.8
24.30	Yorklyde	248	...	3.2	11.2

TRANSPORT

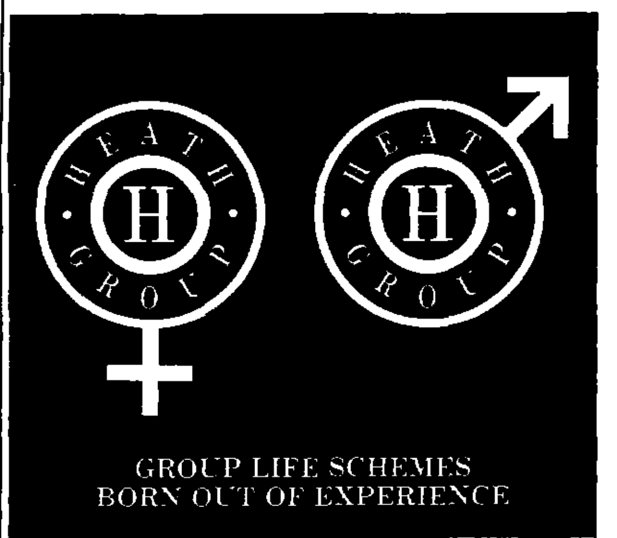
Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5.59	Air London	63	...	6.8	12.0
10,046.10	All Nippon Air	696½	+8¼	0.3	*
1,023.60	Assoc Br Ports	271	+8	2.3	21.6
4,797.90	BAA†	469	-5	2.5	18.3
161.70	Badgerline	128	+3	4.0	..
3,438.00	Br Airways†	360	+9	4.0	9.7
38.70	Central Tpn R	35	-2	..	..
21.00	Clarkson (H)	94	...	2.3	23.6
22.30	Dartt	152	+1	3.2	14.7
1,213.20	Eurotunnel Uts	273	+5	..	..
12.00	Fisher (James)	50	...	..	..
140.40	Forth Ports	468	-10	2.1	21.9
81.50	GRT Bust	228	+½	2.1	17.7
54.40	Go-Ahead	183	+1	3.1	20.3
180.00	Goode Durrant	197	+3	3.8	15.5
47.70	Isle Steam	139	-1	4.0	10.6
20.00	Jacobs (J)	67	+1	3.1	..
57.00	Lon O'Seas Frist	78	-1	6.2	1.8
347.80	Mersey Docks	389	-11	3.0	18.8
1,132.50	NFC†	182	+16	5.8	40.0
114.00	Nat Express	285	-5	3.4	18.4
410.20	Ocean Group	286	+11	6.7	13.4
27.90	Ocean Wilsns	68	...	5.9	9.8
3,678.30	P & O Dfd	619	+10	6.2	18.9
127.90	P & O 5.5%	192	-12	3.6	..
22.50	Seacon	91	-5	3.2	20.7
340.30	Stagecoach	227	-4	2.4	22.4
590.80	TNT	104	-9	..	..
315.10	Tibbet & Britn	713	-6	2.6	18.3
314.60	TDG	213	+1	5.8	14.3
30.80	Uglandt	127	...	2.4	..
31.20	Utd Carriers	92	+9	2.2	..

WATER

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,478.50	Anglian†	498	+21	5.9	11.3
51.90	Mid Kent Hdgs†	286	+3½	4.9	10.1
1,942.50	North West†	518	+30½	5.7	7.4
494.50	Northumbrian†	723	+58	4.4	7.8
1,837.90	Severn Trent†	508	+19½	5.8	7.1
107.30	South Staffs†	1845	+10	3.7	11.1
636.30	South West†	505	+40	8.5	7.4
954.30	Southern	564	+30	5.4	8.0
1,881.80	Thames†	474	+20	6.1	7.1
907.30	Welsh†	624	+44	5.3	6.9
712.40	Wessex	583	+14	5.2	7.5
987.90	Yorkshire†	492	-4	6.8	7.2

Source: Finstat

© USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.



YOUR INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE BROKING PARTNER C E HEATH
133 HOUNDSDITCH LONDON EC3A 7AH TELEPHONE: 071 234 4000
MEMBER OF IMRO

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)					
2,350	Treas 12% 1995	100[illegible]	-[illegible]	11.93	5.85
214	Gas 3% 1990-95	98[illegible]	...	3.04	5.99
2,500	Exch 10¼% 1995	102[illegible] †	-[illegible]	10.04	5.67
840	Treas 12¾% 1995	105[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.13	6.85
770	Treas 14% 1996	107[illegible] †	-[illegible]	13.05	6.99
1,150	Treas 15¼% 1996	114[illegible]	-[illegible]	13.84	7.33
800	Exch 13¼% 1996	107[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.38	7.39
3,409	Conv 10% 1996	103[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.64	7.84
1,280	Treas 13¼% 1997	110 †	-[illegible]	12.05	7.99
3,700	Exch 10½% 1997	104[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.02	8.00
5,550	Treas 8¾% 1997	101[illegible]	...	8.62	8.14
630	Exch 15% 1997	116[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.85	8.30
3,550	Exch 9¾% 1998	103[illegible] †	-[illegible]	9.40	8.36
8,150	Treas 7¼% 1998	96[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.48	8.37
1,200	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	95[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.07	8.35
970	Treas 14% 1998-01	116[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.06	8.50
835	Treas 15½% 1998	122[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.65	8.43
3,009	Exch 12% 1998	111[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.77	8.53
1,900	Treas 9½% 1999	103[illegible] †	-[illegible]	9.17	8.48
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)					
3,050	Exch 12¼% 1999	117[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.89	8.55
1,252	Treas 10½% 1999	107[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.79	8.51
5,800	Treas 6% 1999	90[illegible]	-[illegible]	6.62	8.48
1,788	Conv 10¼% 1999	106[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.61	8.67
5,358	Conv 9% 2000	102[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.82	8.51
3,171	Treas 13% 2000	118[illegible] †	-[illegible]	10.93	8.65
4,406	Treas 10% 2001	108[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.41	8.65
4,350	Treas 7% 2001	92	-[illegible]	7.61	8.56
6,527	Treas 9¾% 2002	105[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.20	8.66
7,950	Treas 8% 2003	95[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.29	8.59
2,503	Treas 10% 2003	108[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.25	8.65
1,820	Treas 11½% 2001-04	112[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.20	8.80
543	Fund 3½% 1999-04	74[illegible] †	-[illegible]	4.89	7.25
3,412	Conv 9½% 2004	105[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.97	8.59
6,500	Treas 6¾% 2004	88[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.83	8.49
4,842	Conv 9½% 2005	106[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.93	8.55
2,208	Treas 12½% 2003-05	122[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.24	8.86
3,800	Treas 7¾% 2006	94[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.19	8.47
2,000	Treas 8% 2002-06	95[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.34	8.55
3,150	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	116[illegible] †	-[illegible]	10.09	8.86
7,197	Treas 8½% 2007	100[illegible] †	-[illegible]	8.49	8.49
1,250	Treas 13½% 2004-08	128[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.48	8.86
5,321	Treas 9% 2008	104[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.64	8.47
LONGS (over 15 years)					
3,100	Treas 8% 2009	96[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.32	8.47
5,273	Conv 9% 2011	105[illegible] †	-[illegible]	8.57	8.43
5,351	Treas 9% 2012	105[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.55	8.55
1,000	Treas 5½% 2008-12	75[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.31	8.17
5,880	Treas 8% 2013	96[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.28	8.36
880	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	94[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.24	8.36
7,550	Treas 8¾% 2017	103[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.42	8.35
1,000	Exch 12% 2013-17	131[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.11	8.58
UNDATED					
1,909	War Ln 3½%	42[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.31	.
475	Treas 2½%	29[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.51	...
INDEX-LINKED					
1,200	Treas IL 2% 1996	200[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.48	4.05
800	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	106[illegible]	-[illegible]	2.99	3.81
1,580	Treas IL 2½% 2001	166[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.39	3.81
1,380	Treas IL 2½% 2003	162[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.47	3.83
1,000	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.49	3.83
1,650	Treas IL 2% 2006	169[illegible] †	+[illegible]	3.55	3.82
1,750	Treas IL 2½% 2009	152[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.61	3.84
2,100	Treas IL 2½% 2011	157[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.65	3.86
2,300	Treas IL 2½% 2013	129[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.68	3.85
2,700	Treas IL 2½% 2016	138[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.69	3.87
2,750	Treas IL 2½% 2020	132[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.72	3.88
2,350	Treas IL 2½% 2024	110[illegible] †	+[illegible]	3.71	3.85
1,300	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	108[illegible] †	+[illegible]	3.74	3.86

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Abtrust Preferred, Brasway, Court Cavendish, East Midlands Electric, Edinburgh Japan Trust, Equity Consort Investment Trust, Ewart, Ivory & Sime. **Finals:** Aberdeen Trust, Burndene Investments, Care UK. **Economic statistics:** Business enterprise and research development (1993).

TOMORROW

Interims: Forminster, Henderson Highland Trust (Q3), Learmonth & Burchett, Schroder Split Fund, Wessex Water. **Finals:** Eurotherm. **Economic statistics:** Cross border acquisitions and mergers (Q3), provisional estimates of M4 and counterparts (November), building societies monthly figures (November), major British banking groups' monthly statement (end-November), M0 (November final).

WEDNESDAY

Interims: British Thornton, Dunton Group, M&G Second Dual Trust, Stewart & Wight, Victoria Carpet Holdings. **Finals:** None scheduled. **Economic statistics:** Minutes of November 2 monetary meeting between the Chancellor and the Governor of Bank of England, engineering sales and orders at current and constant prices (October), institutional investment (Q3), balance of trade with countries outside the European Union (November), international banking statistics (Q3).

THURSDAY

Interims: Jones & Shipman. **Finals:** Minstergate, CA Sperati. **Agms:** Acatos & Hutcheson, William Baird, Broadgate Investment Trust, Investors Capital Trust, Orb Estates, Waverley Mining Finance. **Economic statistics:** UK national accounts (Q3), motor vehicle production (November), United Kingdom balance of payments (Q3).

FRIDAY

Interims: Danae Investment Trust, Electric & General Investment Trust, Farringford. **Finals:** None scheduled. **Economic statistics:** Capital expenditure (Q3 — revised), stocks and work in progress (Q3 — revised).

COMPANIES — PHILIP PANGALOS



Payout surge tipped at East Midlands

EAST MIDLANDS ELECTRICITY: Despite being one of the quietest weeks of the year for results due, there may still be a few sparks in the air as East Midlands Electricity brings the curtain down on the latest regional electricity company reporting season today, with another bumper dividend widely expected.

Shareholders in East Midlands, which is headed by Nigel Rudd, non-executive chairman, and Norman Askew, chief executive, have already had a special £186 million dividend this year. Worth 85p a share, this was announced in October and gave the group's 250,000 shareholders an average pre-Christmas bonus of £170. Investors will be hoping for further generosity from the Nottingham-based East Midlands in the form of a bumper interim payout in line with others in a sector gripped by bid fever. Northern Electric fell under the bid spotlight last week when Trafalgar House emerged as being interested in making a bid. East Midlands' interim dividend is widely expected to rise by at least 20 per cent, with some looking for an increase of more than 30 per cent. Angelos Anastasiou, electricity analyst at Panmure Gordon, expects a half-way payout of between 8.5p and 8.9p a share, compared with 6.8p last time. Forecasts range from 7.7p to 8.96p. Mr Anastasiou expects interim pre-tax profits of £73 million (£63 million). Market forecasts range from £71 million to £84 million.

Mr Rudd and Mr Askew, now firmly at the helm, are concentrating on core operations. This follows a less than successful foray into electrical contracting and problems with the chain of shops, which were merged with those of Yorkshire Electricity last year. Some non-core businesses, however, such as lightning conductors and alarms, are thought to be doing satisfactorily.

The group's two million-plus customers will be hoping for a rebate on their bills, in line with other regional electricity companies, while shareholders keenly await news on next year's proposed sell-off of the National Grid, with hopes that any cash will be redistributed to them.

FORMINSTER: Tomorrow's interim figures from Forminster, the cash-rich textile and clothing group that supplies mail order groups and chain stores, will provide further evidence on the state of a fragile retail market. Retailing giants such as Marks and Spencer may be coping well, but Forminster, which is a big supplier to the women's mail order market through Littlewoods, is unlikely to have escaped the hesitation that is around in the trade. The company is an efficient producer of budget type garments for women and men, but many of the areas being supplied are finding life tougher as retailers continue to step up pressure on textile suppliers to retain quality at keener prices. Despite this, brokers expect Forminster's first half pre-tax profits to edge ahead to £1.2 million (£1.08 million), with an improved interim dividend of 1p (0.93p) forecast. Attention will focus on what the company has to say about current trading and prospects in the run-up to the Christmas period, as well as any indication of the group's future strategy.

EUROTHERM: Barclays de Zoete Wedd expects to see the benefits from the electronic equipment group's reorganisation and cost-cutting. Final pre-tax profits, due tomorrow, are forecast to advance to £24.5 million (£20.1 million). BZW expects earnings to climb to 18.1p (15.1p) a share and a dividend of 5.45p (4.75p).



Getting back to core operations is paying off for Norman Askew, left, and Nigel Rudd

WESSEX WATER: Wessex Water, the last water company to report, announces its figures tomorrow. Once again, the utility is unlikely to disappoint shareholders looking for a dividend rise of more than the rate of inflation.

Robert Miller-Bakewell at NatWest Securities forecasts an advance in interim pre-tax profits to £60 million, compared with £53.4 million last time. Market profit expectations range from £60 million to £65 million. An interim dividend of 4.4p (4p) is predicted, from estimated earnings of 17.3p (15.7p) a share.

Water sector analysts will also be keen to learn more about the waste management side of the business as the shares have been held back by prospects of a landfill levy being introduced.

Easing down for the break

THE financial markets will start to wind down for the Christmas break in a more relaxed mood over the prospect of interest rate rises.

Tomorrow's meeting of the Federal Reserve's policy setting Open Market Committee (FOMC) had been expected on Wall Street to lead to the seventh increase in US interest rates this year, probably killing off the traditional end of year surge in share prices. But sentiment changed last week, with analysts taking Wednesday's figures, which showed a slower than expected rate of core inflation in America, as an indicator that the FOMC had no need for immediate tightening.

The Bundesbank policy making council meets on Thursday. Hopes of a cut in interest rates as inflation continues to slow and the targeted M3 money supply measure improves appear to have faded.

Also on Thursday, concern that British interest rates might have to rise again soon could resurface if GDP figures for the third quarter show any substantial upward revision in growth. Current account data, out the same day, are expected to show the deficit eliminated in the third quarter for the first time since the first quarter of 1987. Wednesday's figures on trade with countries outside the EU are expected to show a slight fall in the deficit in November to £375 million.

Other British indicators tomorrow include November's broad money supply measure, M4, which is expected to have decelerated to an annual growth rate of 3.8 per cent from 3.9 per cent in October. Building society lending for November is forecast to be unchanged at £2.8 billion.

COLIN NARBROUGH

SHARE TIPS

The Sunday Times: **Buy** Eurotherm, Barcom. **Sell** Argyll. *The Observer*: **Buy** Berkeley Group, Greenalls, Dobson Park Industries. **Sell** Greene King. *The Sunday Telegraph*: **Buy** Johnson & Firth Brown, Wakebourne, Firecrest, Greencore, MCIT. *Independent on Sunday*: **Buy** Lucas Industries, Singer & Friedlander, East Midlands Electricity, Wessex Water, Hornby, Filofax, Psion.

GILT-EDGED

Firm grip of monetary policy will need to continue in 1995

This year has surprised most commentators. Economic growth has turned out to be considerably more buoyant than even the most optimistic projections, and inflation much lower than generally expected. The consensus for 1995 appears to be that economic growth will slow from this year's heady pace, while underlying inflation will rise, but only slightly. Given this year's experience, we might well ask: "Where will next year's surprises be?"

Surprises with economic growth are likely to continue to be on the upside, and UK growth in 1995 should at least match this year's pace, if not exceed it. The source of 1994's unexpected growth has been exports, which have risen at twice the pace predicted by most analysts as growth in the United States has remained strong and as the European economy has taken off. Looking around the world, growth surprises continue to be on the upside, for example, the acceleration in activity in the US in the fourth quarter so far, the much stronger than expected gain in GDP in Germany in the third quarter, and the marked upturn in confidence in Japan. The global economy is experiencing something of a boom and sterling's competitive level is ensuring that UK firms gain market share.

Although the personal sector has contributed less to economic growth this year, with incomes squeezed by tax rises, personal incomes and consumption will improve next year as employment picks up. The decline in unemployment has gathered pace in recent months. In the second and third quarters, the average monthly decline in unemployment was 26,000, while, in October and November, the average monthly decline was 46,000. The latest Labour Force Survey indicates that gains in employment are becoming more broad-based. In the early stages of the economic recovery, the main growth in employment was in part-time jobs. However, in the past few months, part-time employment growth has slowed and the number of full-time jobs has risen substantially. Although the personal sector looks a bit subdued, confidence should improve substantially next year.

On inflation, there is probably enough slack in the goods and labour markets to allow a few more quarters of growth at the current pace without a pick-up in inflation. This should ensure that surprises on inflation continue to be favourable, with underlying inflation at retail level likely to be broadly stable in 1995.

Although the UK can probably continue to have strong growth with low inflation for a while longer, the tightening of monetary policy in recent months seems appropriate. It is probably no coincidence that the first two interest-rate hikes came in the last month of the quarter. The authorities are responding to GDP's overall strength and are not delaying tightening due to evidence of softness in the personal sector. The Bank of England will continue to lift rates until sure that GDP growth will slow from the current pace of 4 to 4.5 per cent to a more sustainable 3 per cent, which will probably require another 100 basis points on rates in the next six months. To ensure that inflation stays stable, the monetary authorities will need to continue to respond quickly to evidence of strong growth.

What does all this mean for the gilt market? For much of this year, the financial markets have not known whether the UK should be included in the high-inflation-risk periphery of Europe or the low-inflation-risk core. The new monetary-policy regime appears to have changed all that: even though economic growth is currently strong, pre-emptive monetary tightening should ensure that the UK stays embedded in the low-inflation heart of Europe. UK inflation is expected to settle in a 2.5 to 3 per cent range, slightly above Germany's but well below the 5 per cent likely in the other European countries that experienced big devaluations. In such an environment, recent narrowing of the spread between UK and German bond yields seems entirely justified.

Sterling's competitive level is ensuring that UK firms gain market share

D. J. MACKIE
J P Morgan

RJB shares snapped up by miners

BY SARAH BAGNALL

ABOUT 2,200 former British Coal miners have snapped up the offer of free shares worth £800 by investing £320 in the share offer by RJB Mining, the successful bidder for the English mines of British Coal.

RJB's £400 million public offer at 320p a share is to help fund its £815 million acquisition of English Coal. The offer closes tomorrow. All the shares have been placed with institutional investors subject to public demand, which is expected to be low.

The 8,700 employees of RJB, headed by Richard Budge, chief executive, qualify for 50 free shares, plus 200 free if they acquire a further 100 shares.



Budge: bonus shares offer

High risks could force satellite phone mergers

Eric Reguly looks at those jostling for position in the race to launch the next generation of phones

The race to launch satellite telephone service by the end of the decade became more competitive on Friday, when Immarsat, the international satellite communications co-operative that is based in London, said its members had pledged $1 billion to start work on its $2.6-billion network.

The pledges make Immarsat, which is owned by private and state-owned telecommunications groups in 76 countries, one of about half a dozen serious contenders to push satellite communications into the global consumer market.

If it works as planned, subscribers will be able to use a wireless phone, no larger than the mobile handsets used today, to call anywhere on the planet. Signals beamed from a series of orbiting satellites will be able to reach users in the middle of the Sahara or on a ship in the south Pacific.

The development of satellite communications is being touted as the world's biggest private-sector aerospace project. The stakes are high and experts think the field is already too crowded. "There's only room for one or two of them," said Jim Russ, an analyst at NatWest Securities.

The one to beat is Iridium, an international consortium whose big-name members include Motorola, Lockheed and Raytheon of the US and Verbacom, the telecoms arm of Veba, the German conglomerate. Japanese, Korean, Indian and Russian interests are also involved.

Iridium's main competitors are Immarsat and two North American-based groups, Globalstar and Odyssey. Globalstar was formed by the Loral Corporation, the defence contractor based in New York, and includes Daimler-Benz Aerospace of Germany, Vodafone of Britain and Alcatel of France.

Odyssey's main backers are TRW, the American space and defence group, and Teleglobe Canada, that nation's overseas telecommunications carrier.

The technological merits of the competing systems are open to debate. Odyssey, for example, wants to put 12 satellites into space in a "medium" orbit of about 10,000 kilometres. Iridium plans to use 66 satellites and put them in a "low" orbit of about 800 kilometres.

Iridium's version, with the most satellites, is the most expensive, at about $4 billion. Iridium argues that low-orbit satellites are worth the extra investment because they will create tightly focused beams, ensuring strong, clear signals. Odyssey says it can fire up its version for about $2 billion.

The challenge at this stage in the game, however, is financing, not technology.

Iridium, again, appears to be in the lead. Through private placements, it has raised $1.6 billion and says debt financing will fund the remainder of the cost. Immarsat says it has commitments for more than $1 billion, though the money is not actually sitting in its bank accounts yet.

Odyssey this month said it had snagged $150 million of commitments from TRW and Teleglobe Canada, and has hired Morgan Stanley to find partners willing to put up the rest.

Globalstar has taken a more novel approach. An associated entity, called Globalstar Telecommunications, has filed in the US to raise a few hundred million dollars through a public offering of 12 million shares. Experts expect one or two of the competing groups to drop out of the race or merge because the costs and the risks are astronomical, especially when the number of customers and what they'll pay is almost pure guesswork.

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هكذا من الأصل

Swatchmobil site sparks German job fears

By Colin Narbrough
World Trade Correspondent

THE decision, to be endorsed tomorrow by the supervisory board of Mercedes-Benz, to site the first "Swatchmobil" car plant in France is another key step towards Daimler-Benz, its parent company, becoming a truly international player.

Edzard Reuter, management board chairman of Daimler, the German industrial flagship, has striven to make the cars-to-aerospace group far more than the economic powerhouse of Baden-Württemberg.

Before Mercedes took an interest in the Swatchmobil, Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, tried to win production for Britain. French success in securing the plant has angered German politicians.

The two-seater car, a combination of the innovativeness of Nicolas Hayek, the Swatch watch inventor who saved the Swiss horological industry, and the engineering of Mercedes, is expected to go into production in 1997.

The low-pollution urban car will create 9,700 jobs, although the assembly plant itself is expected to employ only about a thousand. The rest of the jobs will be at components suppliers, and some 3,900 of those jobs are expected to be in Germany.

In spite of a high proportion of the new jobs going to Germany, the choice of Hambach, a German-sounding town in the Lorraine region of north-eastern France, has upset trade unions, politicians and the media in Germany. A widespread concern is that, although the site is less than ten miles from the German border, its choice is another damaging blow to Germany as a location for manufacturing. Fresh anxiety about the *Standort Deutschland* (location Germany) has been aroused.

The decision is particularly hard for Daimler's workforce. The company has undergone swingeing job cuts to restore group financial health and increase productivity to off-set the high cost of employment in Germany. As Herr Reuter, who is to stand down in May, noted last week, 18,000 jobs have been cut since last December at Daimler-Benz. Since 1989, 58,000 have been shed. That still leaves a workforce of 336,600, but Daimler's German workers fear that an ever-decreasing proportion of jobs will be in Germany as production is shifted to America, the Far East and, now, France.

Daimler's turnover will this year reach a record DM103 billion, and operating profits will be about DM1.5 billion.

Daimler's German workforce had lobbied hard to secure the Swatchmobil plant for Germany and were thought to be in contention with France until recently. From initial production of 60,000 a year, the Swatchmobil plant is expected to increase annual output to about 200,000 of the small cars.

Deciding to do this in France is, says Karl Feuerstein, worker representative on the Mercedes board, a "disastrous signal for Germany as an industrial base".

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Tax and rate rises double inflation

INFLATION would be close to 1 per cent at present if the effects of higher interest rates and indirect taxes were excluded, according to the December edition of the Lloyds Bank economic bulletin. Patrick Foley, the bank's chief economic adviser, says: "Likely further rises in interest rates in 1995 will keep inflation in housing costs above that of retail prices in the coming year, helping to boost headline inflation."

The higher excise duties announced in the Budget will also boost inflation. Good cost control and rising productivity have helped to keep it in check despite average UK trade-weighted sterling commodity prices having risen by 17 per cent in the past year. Mr Foley foresees output price inflation moving up towards 3 per cent early next year, but he expects it to stay well below 4 per cent on any measure.

MAM seeks freedom

MERCURY Asset Management, the pension fund manager, is to look at ways to win greater independence from SG Warburg, its 75 per cent owner. The move follows the collapse of merger talks between Warburg and Morgan Stanley. Morgan has made clear that it was unwilling to do a deal that excluded MAM. Some observers think that MAM, to grow, needs to be seen to be more independent, which could mean cutting Warburg's control to 50 per cent.

Discount sector boom

THE discount sector is the fastest growing area of retailing and will more than double by 1999, according to a report by Verdict, the retail research firm. It predicts annual sales will rise from £8 billion to £17 billion, giving it 14 per cent of the market. That excludes discount food operators such as Kwik Save, Aldi and Netto, which already generate sales of almost £5 billion. Richard Hyman, of Verdict, says consumers' price awareness has helped non-food discount retailers.

Draft rules for Crest

THE Treasury is to publish its draft legislation for Crest, the paperless share settlement system being built by the Bank of England, next month. Pen Kent, a Bank of England director, has written to each listed company, saying that the Treasury's consultation document will tell them what they need to do to permit their shares to be transferred through Crest. He is trying to raise awareness of Crest before it starts operating in the second half of 1996.

Ford opens door to UK component suppliers

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

A STRATEGIC move by Ford to produce a single range of vehicles for markets throughout the world is opening up new opportunities for United Kingdom component suppliers.

A search for economies of scale has led Ford to abandon regional purchasing policies. Independent UK suppliers and Ford subsidiaries, which previously sold parts only to Ford of Europe, can now compete to supply components to plants assembling almost identical vehicles around the world.

The first fruits of the new policy were seen last week, when Ford's Belfast plant secured a contract to supply part of the fuel system for Zetec engines to be assembled in Chihuahua, Mexico. The engines will equip versions of the first Ford world car, the Mondeo, sold in the United States. The plant already makes the £100 fuel rails for Zetec engines built for European versions of the Mondeo, but the Mexican engines will use a more sophisticated component which will not be adopted on European models until 1998.

By adopting a new aluminium casting technology, managers at Belfast were able to undercut rival Ford component plants around Detroit to win the Mexican business. Jim Collins, the plant manager, believes Belfast is on course to become the global source for all Zetec fuel rails.

An impending shift of responsibility for component design from Ford's European design centres at Denton, Essex and Cologne, Germany, back to the parts manufacturers, has galvanised staff at the Belfast plant, where 650 people work. Managers are convinced that cheap high-quality labour and generous state grants for expansion can help them to exploit the new policy to increase sales, which already exceed £100 million a year. They are so confident of winning extra business they are pressing Ford for an early end to production of Venturi carburettors, saying they need space for new work. William McCullins, the plant's profit improvement manager, says new business would trigger investment to build extra capacity.

Concentration of purchasing on fewer suppliers, with a bigger role in developing component systems, is both an opportunity for the UK industry and a threat. The more capable companies are securing increases in exports and benefiting from rising car production in Britain. But studies for the Department of Trade and Industry have shown that many British component makers trail the quality and cost standards of their international rivals, and risk losing business as purchasing becomes more global.

ANDRÉ CAMARA



The last of 35,000 ordered hampers leaving the Knightsbridge premises of Harrods at the weekend. These £1,000 Supreme hampers were among 50 to be delivered.

Fraudulent claims cut by insurers

By Our City Staff

THE five million fraudulent insurance claims handled in 1994 by the Association of British Insurers cost £600 million — 25 per cent less than the estimated fraud in 1992.

False claims add on average 4p in the pound to the premiums of other customers, says the ABI. The two most common types are failure to tell the truth when applying, and inflating claims.

In November, the Claims and Underwriting Exchange Register began to track down offenders claiming twice or changing companies to conceal claims.

Mark Boléat, the director general of the insurers' association, said: "Insurance companies have put a large effort into preventing fraudsters stealing from honest policyholders. This is now beginning to pay off, with signs of a fall in the number and cost of fraudulent claims."

Organised crime to be biggest threat to trade

By Marianne Curphey

THE leading threats to international business next year will be sophisticated, organised crime and fraud, rather than terrorism, a new report claims.

British businesses are more pessimistic about the threat of crime and fear that nationalism, religious extremism and political instability will threaten their trade overseas.

According to Control Risks Group, a security consultancy, organised crime in South Africa will grow, while in other parts of Africa jobless guerilla armies will seek "alternative" employment. The disparity between rich and poor and youths turning to crime in place of radical left-wing politics, are also cited.

Nigel Churton, managing director, said: "While political instability, nationalism, and religious extremism will continue to disrupt business in 1995, organised crime is the most pervasive and sophisticated threat. The threat of crime is set to become a key item on board meeting agendas. The good news is that you can combat it, but it requires time and effort and a willingness to plan for the 'unthinkable'."

SUCCESS DEPENDS ON CO-OPERATION

1993-1994 proved to be one of the most significant years in the history of the University of Nottingham. A series of independent surveys confirmed Nottingham's position in the leading group of higher education institutions in the country.

* Nottingham is the most popular University in terms of student applications per place
* It is rated by The Times as the leading English provincial university
* Nottingham's ranking as the highest academic earner from private industry and commerce has been confirmed

This record of achievement is due to successful collaboration between academics and the wider community, backed by support staff of the highest quality. In each area of activity – research, teaching, work with the local community – the achievements are the result of close co-operation and of responding to the needs of others.

Degree courses are structured and taught to meet the needs of students; research projects are tailored to industrial, commercial or social requirements or, if more fundamental in character, are nonetheless rooted in a desire to benefit society in the future. In the community, the University has taken further steps in developing cultural and educational provision, with the 2000-strong student community action project in the forefront. Nottingham injects some £160 million annually to the local economy, supports jobs and business and enhances the quality of life.

No one individual or group can claim the credit for the success and accomplishments of the University. They are the result of many individuals and groups working together for a common purpose. Seeking further improvement is the challenge for the future.

For copies of the Annual Report contact
The Public Affairs and Information Office,
University of Nottingham,
University Park,
Nottingham NG7 2RD.

Telephone 0115 951 5759 Facsimile 0115 951 5733



THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 40

TOOT
(b) A 'snort' of cocaine. "Jenkins concluded that the only drawbacks to a toot were the high price and the law."

COLETA
(a) A pigtail, worn by a bull-fighter as a mark of his profession. 1928, *Daily Telegraph*, July 19th: "One of Spain's 'star' matadors has bidden farewell to the arena ... To-day as a sign of his decision he had his coleta bobbed."

DUMPOKED
(c) An Indian cooking term applied to a steamed dish of boned and stuffed meat. Especially a boned and stuffed chicken or duck. 1954 G.S. Rao *Indian Words in English*: "Indian dishes figured on their tables: cabob, pilau, dumpoked fowl, curry, kedgeree."

FEIS
(a) An assembly of kings, chiefs, etc., being a kind of early Celtic parliament. "The feis lasted for seven days and covered the whole scheme of national life, including social, legislative and literary functions."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 ... Qg2+! 2 Rxg2 fxg2 mate.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5627 (+0.0032)
German mark
2.4555 (-0.0046)
Exchange index
80.4 (+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2314.3 (+21.0)
FT-SE 100
3013.6 (+36.3)
New York Dow Jones
3807.19 (+121.46)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
19163.43 (+185.13)

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.12	1.95
Austria Sch	18.25	16.75
Belgium Fr	53.51	49.21
Canada $	2.272	2.112
Cyprus Cyp£	0.789	0.734
Denmark Kr	10.22	9.42
Finland Mkk	8.21	7.51
France Fr	8.94	8.24
Germany Dm	2.61	2.40
Greece Dr	400.00	375.00
Hong Kong $	12.73	11.73
Ireland Pt	1.07	0.99
Italy Lira	2845.00	2490.00
Japan Yen	171.00	155.00
Malta	0.622	0.567
Netherlds Gld	2.897	2.667
Norway Kr	11.28	10.48
Portugal Esc	262.50	244.00
S Africa Rd		5.35
Spain Pta	213.00	199.00
Sweden Kr	12.36	11.56
Switzerland Fr	2.20	2.02
Turkey Lira	refer	56526.0
USA $	1.659	1.529

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

PASTORAL MEASURE 1983
The Church Commissioners have prepared a draft redundancy scheme providing for the demolition of the remaining parts of the redundant church of St Luke, Cheetham in the Diocese of Manchester, with the exception of the tower and supporting parts, for the appropriation of the excepted features to use as a monument and for the appropriation of the site of the demolished church and the churchyard to use for the like purposes and for retail, leisure, restaurant and car parking use. Copies of the draft scheme may be obtained from the Church Commissioners, 1 Millbank, London SW1P 3JZ to whom any representations may be made by 19 January 1995.

LEGAL NOTICES

Euro Telephone Services Limited
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd floor), London W2 6LF, on 29th December 1994 at 11.00 am for the purposes provided in section 98 of sea.
A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & co, PO Box 853, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00 am to 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
DATED THIS 12th December 1994.
M.C. Shein - Director

LEGAL NOTICES

G.West Limited
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 4th January 1995 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq.
A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 853, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00 am to 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
DATED THIS 13th December 1994.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
No. 007358 1994
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF BARROW HEPBURN GROUP PLC
IN THE MATTER OF
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the order of High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 14th December 1994 confirming the reduction of the capital of the Company from £10,000,000 to £3,001,428 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 15th December 1994
Dated 15 December 1994
Alsop Wilkinson
6 Dowgate Hill
London EC4R 2SS
Solicitors for the Company

INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106(1)
BLOSSOM-IS MODA LIMITED
IN CREDITORS
VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Ian Frames, Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Ian Frames Associates, Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP was appointed Liquidator of the above-named company on the 9th December 1994.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to Mr Eric Pepat at Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP.
I Frames
Liquidator

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF JOINT LIQUIDATORS AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO CLAIM
AMBASSADOR AIRWAYS LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)
Principal Trading Address: Lloyds Court, Manor Royal, Crawley, West Sussex
Company Number: 2597510
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 29 November 1994 R S Preece and N R Lyle were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above named company (creditors' voluntary winding up).
Creditors of the company who have not already done so should submit their claims in writing to me at the following address under reference: JRDS/ALP/BB.
R S Preece and N R Lyle
Touche Ross & Co
65 High Street
Crawley
West Sussex
RH10 1BQ

NO.007077 of 1994
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF KDM INTERNATIONAL PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 30th November 1994 confirming the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named Company from £4,069,296 to £3,901,393 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 12th December 1994.
Birkett Westhorp & Long.
20/32 Museum Street,
Ipswich, Suffolk
IP1 1HZ.
Ref JBH.

Strongest (Western International) Limited
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on the 29th December 1994 at 14.00 for the purpose provided in Section 98 et seq.
A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 853, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00 am to 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meetings of Creditors.
DATED THIS 14th December 1994.
D.P Green - Director

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
071-782 7344
OR
FAX: 071-782 7827
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

A few sensible ways to make Britain feel better



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Christmas 1994 does not look like being a great vintage on the high street. Too bad. If retailers cannot match the 2.5 per cent average volume rise for the year, more will learn that they can no longer charge high prices before Christmas and slash them on Boxing Day. Shops must do their sums on the basis of lower gross margins all year round. So must property owners, who provide the best bargains each Christmas by closing shops with rent rises that assume inflation is still rampant.

Consumer spending is lagging healthily behind economic growth. There are, however, bigger reasons for voters to feel bad when the economy is expanding, inflation is low and job queues shrinking. One crisp explanation was given on Friday: "More jobs aren't enough, we have to raise incomes." That was not John Major, nor even John Maples, unwitting proclaimer of Tory realism, but Bill Clinton, introducing his $60 billion "middle-class bill of rights".

Britain should not follow the Clinton formula: vast tax allowances to be paid for by spending cuts that will be whittled away before they are realised. Britain has a more dour approach, putting public finances before tax cuts. Incentives are best improved by cutting tax rates and minimising allowances. No need to discard these good principles.

There are still important lessons in Mr Clinton's analysis, because the Government regards America as the shining ideal of labour market de-regulation and job creation. People do not feel better if well-paid full-time jobs are being lost in droves, even if many more low-paid and part-time jobs replace them. Mr Clinton has realised after years of strong growth, the equivalent of where the UK will be in 1997-98.

If either Government or Opposition are to make people feel better, they should learn that the flexible American employment ideal is flawed. Job creation is vital to raise sustainable economic growth. But wage-poverty and the insecurity that undermines confidence are counter-productive, not just in the ballot box. As I argued in this column a week ago, ministers should avoid measures that swell the ranks of the needy or raise their living costs and, therefore, raise social security spending. Instead, they should cut public spending by reversing these trends. Government should not be afraid to interfere more at the edges of free markets as the counterpart to making the economy more responsive to efficient market forces.

Here are a few suggestions for making people feel better next year:

☐ Government and Opposition need to tell people what their strategy is. A desire to cut public spending or spend only what the country can afford is not enough. Tories should say what proportion of national income they aim to spend on health and education. Labour needs to say what total percentage spending it aims for. That would force some useful forward planning.

☐ Cut direct taxes if there is scope. But concentrate cuts on lower incomes so that far fewer people need to resort to welfare benefits. The best way is to raise the threshold before income tax is payable sharply, even though this costs most revenue. Widening the 20 per cent band would help a bit. But remember, the lowest employee tax rate is still 30 per cent, including National Insurance contributions, when the highest is only 40 per cent.

☐ To help pay for this, raise the ceiling for NICs to the level where 40 per cent tax is payable. And introduce a new maximum 50 per cent rate, which most top earners consider fair. That is the way governments should comment on high pay.

☐ Avoid any further switch to indirect taxes, which always raise public spending by boosting the retail price index. By all means raise petrol tax steadily and heavily to cut pollution, but say so in advance and use the proceeds to cut VAT.

☐ Eddie George should make a new-year resolution to stop talking about higher interest rates and inflation fears all the time. Base rates have risen by only one point, but his constant emphasis has had far more impact on confidence. Stick to the policy, but say, truthfully, that your aim is to drive long-term interest rates as low as possible.

☐ Pass a short Act changing the terms of reference of utility regulators. They should not set price limits that assume employment in regulated companies will fall by more than 5 per cent a year.

☐ Add a clause to the Pensions Bill to oblige pension funds to vote with their shares in companies on all occasions. This should be part of a drive to persuade fund managers to take more social responsibility. Most assume anything other than the bottom line is a matter for government. But the state has rightly left it to them. They should take their role seriously, acting as truer proxies for powerless private shareholders.

☐ Help public spending and small businesses with some fail-safe new rent controls. Any annual rise in rents of more than twice the rise in money national income should automatically be tested against market levels. And ban leases with upward-only rent reviews. Market forces are not working here because of the demands of investing institutions.

☐ Announce a long-term aim to abolish the 10.2 per cent employers' National Insurance contribution. Axing the jobs tax across Europe would promote employment without wage cuts. A cut of 3 points could be financed by raising corporation tax to 40 per cent. Companies that raise employment could pay the lower small companies rate. Those not investing enough in new capital or research should pay a penal rate.

These are not exactly revolutionary changes. But the best reforms are those that achieve the most effect for the least disturbance to individuals and businesses. That is another lesson governments need to learn.

RADIO CHOICE

An Eyre view of theatre

Utopia and Other Places. *Radio 3. 8.55pm.*

It is a stiff climb up the ladder from being the French herald in *Henry V* in weekly repertory to becoming artistic director of the National Theatre. Engagingly, Richard Eyre scales the first rungs of that ladder in the four excerpts he is reading from his recently published autobiography. On his way up, he has seen illusions (his and others') shattered, emerging from this and other wreckage a 'wiser man'. I have never met Eyre, but I can well imagine that when he surveys the world of theatre from the top of the ladder, very few clouds of uncertainty obfuscate his view.

The London Symphony Orchestra: 90 Legendary Years. *Classic FM, 7.00pm.*

Anatomies of orchestras were once the preserve of Radio 3. They have now spilt over to Classic FM. Jon Tolanski's series about the London Symphony Orchestra's first nine decades shows how becomingly Classic FM shares Radio 3's mantle. Tonight's instalment covers the years 1955-60 — a time of trouble followed by the renaissance that it continues to enjoy to this day. In the 1950s, most of the LSO's principals resigned in a bitter dispute over the engaging of deputies. The reborn orchestra was strengthened by the signing of virtuoso performers such as Barry Tuckwell, and the baton was passed to renowned conductors including Stokowski, Dorati and — the most spectacular coup of all — Pierre Monteux. Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Bruno Brookes 6.30 Steve Wright 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lynn Parsons, including at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat 2.00 Mark Goodier 4.00 Nicky Campbell with Drivetime, including at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session, with Steve Lamacq and Jo Whiley 9.00 Shuttleworth's Showtime: with John Shuttleworth 10.00 Mark Radcliffe Midnight Claire Sturgess

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy with the Early Show 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce, including at 10.00 Pick of the Hits 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Gloria Hunniford 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Hubert Gregg: Thanks for the Memory 7.30 Malcolm Laycock with Dance Band Days, and at 8.00 Big Band Era 8.30 Big Band Special 9.00 Humphrey Lyttelton with the Best of Jazz 10.00 Jazz Score: Benny Green chairs the jazz quiz from Ronnie Scott's, London 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Digby Fairweather with Jazz Notes 1.00 Steve Madden with Night Ride 3.00-6.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, including at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing Preview 8.35 The Magazine, including at 10.35 Euronews and at 11.00 Actuality 12.00 Midday with Mair, including at 12.34pm Moneycheck, with Liz Barclay 2.05 Ruscoe on Five 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News Extra, including at 7.20 the day's sport in full 7.35 Sportstrack: music and sporting memories from 1985 8.00 The Monday Match: Southampton v Aston Villa 10.05 News Talk, with Niall Dickson 11.00 Night Extra, including at 11.45 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am The Other Side of Midnight 2.00 Up All Night

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30am BBC English 4.45 Frühmagazin 5.00 Newshour 6.00 Morgenmagazin 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 *Sleeping Beauty and the Airplane* 7.30 Going to the Movies 8.00 News. 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Health 8.30 Anything Goes 9.00 News 9.05 Business 9.15 I've Got Something To Tell You 9.30 Learning World. 9.45 Sports 10.00 News 10.01 In the Market Place 10.30 Vintage Chart Show 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Mittagsmagazin 12.00 News 12.10pm Words of Faith 12.15 Counterpoint 12.45 Sports 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Sleeping Beauty and *the Airplane* 2.45 It's Your Business 3.00 News 3.15 The Miller Legacy 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 News 5.05 Business 5.15 BBC English 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 Kaleidoskop 8.00 News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 The World Today 8.30 Europe Today 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.05 Business 10.15 Meridian 10.45 Sports 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Multitrack 12.00 News 12.15 A Jolly Good Show 1.00 News 1.05 Outlook 1.30 Folk Routes 1.45 Health 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Counterpoint 3.00 News 3.15 Sports 3.30 John Peel 4.00 Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Classic Reports 7.00 The London Symphony Orchestra: 1955-1960: Sea Choice 8.00 Evening Concert: Instrumental Christmas music 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am Mark Griffiths

VIRGIN

6.00am Paul Coyte 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Wendy Lloyd 7.00 Paul Coyte 11.00 Nick Abbot 2.00-6.00am Janey Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather
7.00 **On Air**, with Andrew McGregor. Beethoven (Overture: Leonore No 3); Anon (Cypriot Advent antiphon: O radix Yesse splendida); Paganini (Caprices, Op 1: No 10 in G minor; No 11 in C); Dvořák (Rondo in G minor, Op 94); Vaughan Williams (Piano Concerto)
9.00 **Composers of the Week**: E.J. Moeran and Peter Warlock. Paul Hindmarsh explores the friendship of the two composers through their music. Warlock (Yarmouth Fair: Owen Brannigan, baritone, Ernest Lush, piano); Moeran (Rhapsody No 1); Moeran (Stalham River); Warlock (Benedicamus Deo; Corpus Christi: Finzi Singers under Paul Spicer); Moeran (Cello Sonata); Warlock (Mr Belloc's Fancy)
10.00 **Musical Encounters**: Costes (Cinderella); 10.25 *Artist of the Week*: John Wallace, trumpet. Petr Eben (Blue Window); 10.35 Mozart (Piano Concerto No 21 in C); Arthur Butterworth (Gabriel Sonata: John Wallace, trumpet); Fauré (Piano Quartet in G minor, Op 45)
12.00 **The Essential Guide to Plot Devices**: Long-Lost Relatives. Rodney Milnes continues his series looking at plots in opera
1.00pm **BBC Lunchtime Concert** live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Raphael Trio performs Wolf-Ferrari (Trio in F sharp minor, Op 7); Mendelssohn (Trio in D minor, Op 49)
2.00 **Christmas Concertos**: Italian concertos with a Christmas flavour by Corelli, Tartini and Locatelli, including at 2.45 Interval Reading: Don Macleod reads an account of an Italian shepherd's journey on foot from Italy to England
3.30 **Friday Afternoons**: The Alberni Quartet performs a sequence of Russian miniatures from *Les Vendredis*
3.45 **Songs Without Words**: Songs from the early Renaissance, later arranged for the harpsichord, including works by Manuel Rodriguez Coelho, Gabrieli and Cabezon. With Sophie Yates, harpsichord
4.30 **Strange Arrangement**: The composer, pianist and bandleader Carla Bley talks to Alan Plater
5.00 **The Music Machine**: The impact of digital technology on music (r)
5.15 **In Tune**, with Andrew Green
7.30 **Philharmonia Beethoven Cycle**: Nikolaus Harnoncourt conducts the Philharmonia Orchestra in Beethoven (Symphony No 1 in C, Symphony No 3 in E flat, Eroica)
8.55 **Utopia and Other Places**: See Choice
9.15 **Hummel Quartets**: Hummel (String Quartet No 1 in C) (r)
9.45 **Harrison Birtwistle at 60**: Mahler (Todtenfeier); Birtwistle (The Triumph of Time)
10.45 **Mixing It**, with Robert Sandall
11.30-12.30am **Music Restored**: The New London Consort under Philip Pickett performs chamber cantatas for the Christmas season

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.45 Business News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sports News 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 The Ice Warrior, by David Hartnett (r) 8.58 Weather
9.00 **News** 9.05 **Start the Week**, with Melvyn Bragg, Dr Susan Greenfield, the Rev Dr Leslie Griffiths, Pratibha Parmar and Tom Sutcliffe
10.00 **News; With Great Pleasure** (FM only): The actor, writer, director and raconteur Victor Spinetti chooses his favourite pieces of writing
10.00 **Daily Service** (LW only), from St Andrew's and St George's Church, Edinburgh
10.15 **Children's Radio 4** (LW only): Charlotte's Web, by E.B. White. William Hootkins reads the first of seven parts
10.30 **Woman's Hour**, introduced by Jenni Murray
11.30 **Money Box Live**: 071 580 4444
12.00 **News; You and Yours**, with Dare Brehan
12.25pm **Screenplay**: Iain Johnstone hosts the celebrity film quiz 12.55 Weather
1.00 **The World at One**, with Nick Clarke
1.40 **The Archers** (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 **News; The Frewintosh Formula**: Iain Crawford's light-hearted play about the invention of "instant whisky" by the Japanese (r)
3.00 **Anderson Country**
4.00 **News** 4.05 **Kaleidoscope**: Natalie Wheen visits the Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford
4.45 **Short Story: A Festive Vocation**, by Eddi McVeigh
5.00 **PM** 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 **Six O'Clock News**
6.30 **The News Quiz of the Year**: Barry Took looks back at his favourite stories of 1994 (r)
7.00 **News** 7.05 **The Archers**
7.20 **The Food Programme** (r)
7.45 **The Monday Play: A Child of Consequence**, by Nicholas McInerny. Cardiff solicitor Rhiannon (Melanie Waters) is hired by Derrick, who has fled from Sarajevo with his daughter Melodia, to defend him in a child custody case. With Owen Teale
9.15 **Four on a Tour**: David Foster recalls a 1914 motoring holiday around Britain by four Americans (r)
9.30 **Kaleidoscope** (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 **The World Tonight**, with Robin Lustig
10.45 **Book at Bedtime**: Brazzaville Beach. Fiona Shaw reads the sixth of a ten-part adaptation of William Boyd's novel
11.00 **The Street**: Water Street, Carmarthen, Dyfed (r)
11.30-12.00 **The Christopher Marlowe Mysteries** (FM only), by Ged Parsons. More baffling intrigue for Elizabeth I's most eloquent spy in *The Perplex'd Plot of the Perilous Plague* (r)
11.30 **Today in Parliament** (LW only)
12.00-12.43am **News**, incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast 12.43 As World Service (LW only)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Deer and Gillian Maxey

Jessica Berry reports on a new name in the UK clothing business

Weekenders breaks into Britain



Anne Ponsonby made £111,000 in bonuses last year through managing direct-sales of clothing from her home for a Canadian company

Anne Ponsonby, who will be 70 next week, made £111,000 from bonus payments last year working for a publicity-shy direct sales clothes company. Chris Wood, working with the same firm, made £85,000 pounds last year.

Both women earn their money from Weekenders Ladies Wear. They started with the company four years ago when it was set up in Britain, buying presentation packs of clothes and holding mini fashion shows for their friends. Eventually, they recruited others and are now both independent sales managers.

Bob Bailey first had the idea of Weekenders ten years ago in Toronto for a company selling "Easy wear — easy care" clothes. Women did not like spending money at the dry-cleaners and their husbands were fed up with carrying large suitcases for their wives whenever they went away for a weekend. The result: machine-washable, multi-purpose garments available in 9 colours and various sizes, and weighing up to a mere 13.5 ounces.

A typical pack of nine garments can fit into one small bag, which doubles up as a jacket. It seems to have worked. Since then, the company has grown rapidly, establishing branches in the United States and Britain, and is planning to open in Mexico, New Zealand and Germany. Each branch operates independently, except that it must import its clothes directly from the Toronto factory and use the same marketing strategy.

Weekenders' UK business is based in Milton Keynes, where there is a 47,000 sq ft warehouse that stores the clothes as they arrive. Growing at a rate of about 200 per cent a year, its turnover leapt from £630,000 in its first year to about £19 million this year. It hopes to make a profit for the first time this year — of up to £800,000.

Anyone can sell clothes for Weekenders, but the products are never advertised. Mrs Ponsonby was visiting Toronto some years ago, when she met her niece's husband, George Raynault, a co-founder of the business.

"I started doing it more as a hobby until my Lloyd's losses made it necessary," she said. A Lloyd's name, and the wife of former diplomat, she had not worked for many years but has gone a long way towards recovering her losses. "I think there are a lot of women out there who are over 50 and think they're too old. Look at me," she laughed.

Behind the British operation is Ann Heath-Saunders. Having worked in direct sales for 30 years, she was approached by the Toronto office five years ago. "We have a great bunch of ladies. Often when you have a lot of women you can have a competitive, bitchy atmosphere," she said. "But here, everybody gets out of it just what they want."

The company boasts a unique marketing strategy with no direct competition. It hates publicity because Mrs Heath-Saunders fears being associated with illegal pyramid selling operations, of which the general public has little understanding.

"I'm very averse to multi-level companies. I don't want to be associated with them," she said. "We are so different from the others. All our discounts are based on sales alone and not on stock purchases," she added.

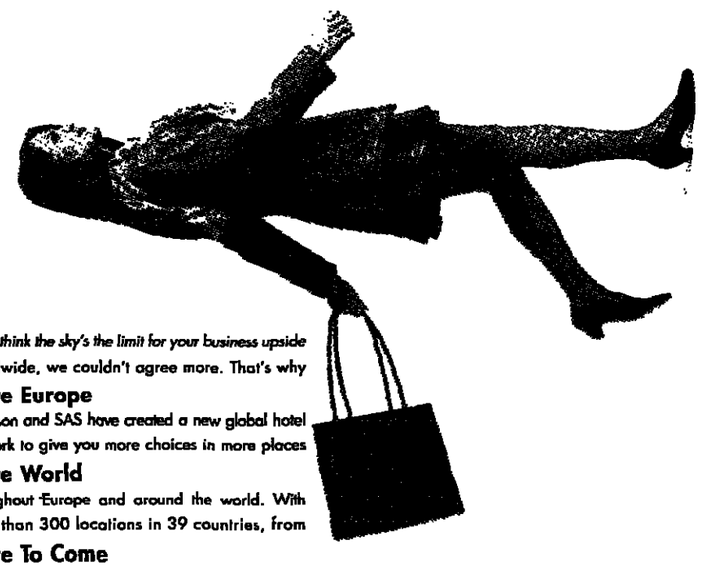
Mrs Wood was equally sceptical: "All other [direct selling companies] are members of DSA [Direct Selling Association] because they think it gives them credibility. They think the DSA is a credible banner."

So while the DSA is keen to take Weekenders under its wing, the company is wary. Richard Berry, a DSA director, understands Weekenders' reticence but hopes to attract more companies by promoting a Private Members Bill as he hopes to persuade Parliament to distinguish lawful from unlawful pyramid selling.

Meanwhile, Weekenders has 2,500 "co-ordinators" in Britain and 72 managers. As a co-ordinator expands, taking more people under her wing, she begins to receive greater bonuses from sales. A co-ordinator with seven in her "unit" can expect a 7 per cent bonus on her unit's sales, which the company pays. This, says Anjana Rackshit, one of the Weekenders' extended "family" members, is what keeps it intact: "It's entirely ethical because you don't take a chunk out of somebody else's profit working below you."

It is hard to find discontented co-ordinators. Miss Rackshit, who joined a year ago, thinks it is the perfect training ground for politicians. "It appeals to my ego," she said. "I really want people to follow me."

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He did not stay for the money

CLOSE observers of Threadneedle Street tell me that Sir Adrian Cadbury, he of corporate governance fame, showed scant regard for his principle of clearly determined periods of office for directors when he was a member of the court of directors of the Bank of England. One four-year term was not enough and he stayed for 24 years, only stepping down last February, well after publication of the Cadbury Code. Although Sir Adrian might be subject to criticism for staying so long, he could hardly be attacked over pay. The worthy members of the court receive a paltry £500 a year.

Last word

SIEMENS, the German electrical and electronics group, has had a reputation for being a rather slow-moving monster. But Heinrich von Pierer, the management board chairman, demonstrated his enthusiasm for change when he last week junked the time-worn tradition of attaching "*Es gilt das gesprochene Wort*" (only the spoken word is valid) to copies of speeches made available to the press. From now on, Herr von Pierer happily told a news conference in Munich, both the written text and the spoken word are valid. Looks like a recipe for mix-and-match reporting.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Well-versed

ROBIN Angus of NatWest Securities' investment trust team, now in his tenth year as a writer of Christmas carol lyrics, has produced a delightful festive work to be sung to the tune of *It came upon the midnight clear*. A taster for our readers shows how closely he follows current events from his Scottish fastness:

Two ways in 1995 we see
To gain a lot of brass.
To win the National Lottery
or *manage British Gas*

Anyone who wants all 24 verses is recommended to write to Angus at Kintore House, 74-77 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 4NS

IF YOU think buying the turkey, stuffing and all the other Christmas goodies is a daunting prospect, spare a thought for Pam Weeks, senior buyer at Gardner Merchant. She had to order 270 tons of turkey, 26 miles of chipolatas, 2.6 million mincepies and 44,000 puddings, not to mention the small matter of 1.43 million crackers.

COLIN NARBROUGH

Left turn

MOROCCO, pursuing privatisation with astounding speed, is seeking a foreign bank, UK perhaps, to take up part of the National Bank of Foreign Trade, almost half of which is to be sold. With 17 per cent of the Moroccan market, it could well attract a City institution to the country where George Soros has started to invest. Abderrahmane Saaidi, Morocco's Privatisation Minister, in London to rustle up interest, said last week that selling the state silver has become so politically acceptable in his country that even the left wing, which once opposed, no longer resists. And we all thought Labour had made a bold new switch on public ownership under Tony Blair.

هكذا من الأصل

How poisonous some people turn out to be

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

Normally, there's nothing I like more than a theme night. Wait till they do Pets Night and I will type up a storm, happily pointing out omissions, and rejoicing in the feature about cat furniture. But something weird happened with Saturday's *Weird Night* on BBC 2. Weirdly, I was apathetic about the whole thing. On Saturday I found myself thinking, "Hey, that's a relief, Cliff Richard's on the other side!" Which is about as weird as weird can be.

Last night's **Timewatch** (BBC 2) wasn't so weird, except that it was broadcast opposite the second part of *The Wimbledon Poisoner*, whose plot it resembled, weirdly. *Typhoid Mary* told the story of a real, historical Irish woman who, just like the comical Henry Farr in *The Wimbledon Poisoner*, left a trail of corpses wherever she went. A professional plain cook in turn-of-the-century New York, and a dead ringer for John Reginald Christie, she infected countless clients with typhoid, despite remaining robust herself. Finally, a doctor worked out what she was doing, tracked her down, and put her on an island in the East River. Whether she was contrite about her grisly CV was not discovered. But on the one occasion when she was released on parole, she went straight back to killing people, so presumably her qualms were few.

Old black-and-white footage showed a woman arrested, struggling, and pushed into a Black Maria (appropriate, in the circs). But if I may make a general complaint here, isn't it irritating not to know whether the pictures were of the real Mary, or were from a film about Mary, or came from a film about something else entirely? Such use of just-the-job footage to illustrate words is pretty irresponsible, I think, and it's increasingly common. It happened a lot in *Forbidden Britain*, too.

But back with Typhoid Mary, she was clearly a case for pity. Perhaps she was simply not bright enough to make the causal connection: "There's typhoid here? Oh, not *again*?" Does the city have the right to lock people up if they carry disease — Aids, for example? Typhoid Mary objected to her treatment, but apparently what upset her more was the epithet "Typhoid Mary". Inexplicably, she thought she didn't deserve it.

Meanwhile the Wimbledon Poisoner had no such diffidence about claiming his pestilential title. "I am the Wimbledon Poisoner," Henry Farr confessed to his tormentor, Chief Inspector Rush. "No you're not," said Rush. "I am."

Nigel Williams's story climaxed last night at the windmill on Wimbledon Common — in a scene of high comic drama, a cross between *Strangers on a Train* and *Camberwick Green*. Remember how Dusty Miller always trotted out between the sails of his windmill, and was never once clocked on the loaf? Rush was not so lucky. A large crowd of agitated Wimbledonians in nighties gathered to watch him plummet to his death. They had swarmed through the dark streets like a lynch mob — though with the sensible (and beautifully observed) suburban precaution of wearing cyclist reflector bands to prevent unnecessary mishap.

Possibly they were the same angry mob of decent people who rang up the BBC after the first episode of *The Wimbledon Poisoner* to complain about the language — language which, this being a family newspaper, I am unable to reproduce (may God strike me down if I ever resort to "effing" and "frigging"). I would agree that the occasional bout of language certainly took you by surprise, but it was hardly gratuitous — the point was that Farr swore four times *in the course of a funeral oration*. Episode Two was more circumspect, but didn't compromise a whole lot: the widow's masturbation episode (sorry) was still there, if less graphic than in the book; and the scene in which Henry and Elinor reacquaint themselves fleshily was toned down considerably. "You're fat and I'm screwing you!" was still a funny thing to shout in ecstasy, of course, but it lost out on the original assonance, if you get my meaning.

Finally, **Everyman** (BBC 1) was a rather inconclusive story about a small community in Co Wicklow where a statue had wept big, brown tears and brought sight-seers faintly ambling. *Mary's Miracle*, it was called, but it was a lot less reverential than such programmes are apt to be, perhaps because it allowed the heretical possibility (mentioned by the local priest) that the tears were caused by melted eye-adhesive rather than divine intervention.

Still, Mary Murray, the postmistress of Grange Con, believed in the miracle of her statue, as did her family. Grange Con is not yet an official site of pilgrimage, but with the help of a local radio station, they are working on it.

Mary's Miracle was like an incomplete short story, with lots of room for development — the ordinariness of the place, the potential for tragic repercussions and village hostility, the weirdly adjacent secular and holy. What would happen next? A *Screen Two* in March this year proposed just such a scenario: Barry Devlin's *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, set in 1954, concerned a little boy who communed with Our Lady and set off such an unfortunate train of events that an over-credulous priest (Tom Wilkinson) was ultimately led off in a straitjacket. In *Mary's Miracle*, any dignity the phenomenon might have attracted was undermined by faintly comical scenes in Mary's shop — where, every time Mary's daughter started to tell the story of the statue, customers interrupted, demanding postal orders and pineapple chunks.

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast with Paul Burden, Sara Coburn and Heather Payton (70109)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News presented by Nicholas Witchell and Jill Dando (29785513)

9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (8791074)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (9864906) **10.05 Good Morning with Anne and Nick**. Weekday magazine series (s) (46716703)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1385267) **12.05 Pebble Mill** with Alan Titchmarsh (s) (6108074) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (14366548)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (72906)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (35532890) **1.50 The Great British Quiz**. The question-master is Philip Hayton (s) (35543906)

2.15 Knots Landing. American drama serial (s) (4862258) **3.00 Today's Gourmet**. Jacques Pepin prepares another mouth-watering meal (3155)

3.30 Cartoon Double Bill (r) (2841345) **3.45 Monster Café** (s) (2766600) **4.00 Mortimer and Arabel**. Puppet comedy drama (s) (2505161) **4.15 The All New Popeye Show** (r) (5642109) **4.35 Bucky O'Hare** (r) (8178548)

5.00 Newsround (6729631) **5.05 Blue Peter**. (Ceefax) (s) (8648113)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (710797)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (426)

6.30 Regional news magazines (906). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

7.00 Telly Addicts. The final of the television trivia quiz, presented by Noel Edmonds (s) (1364)

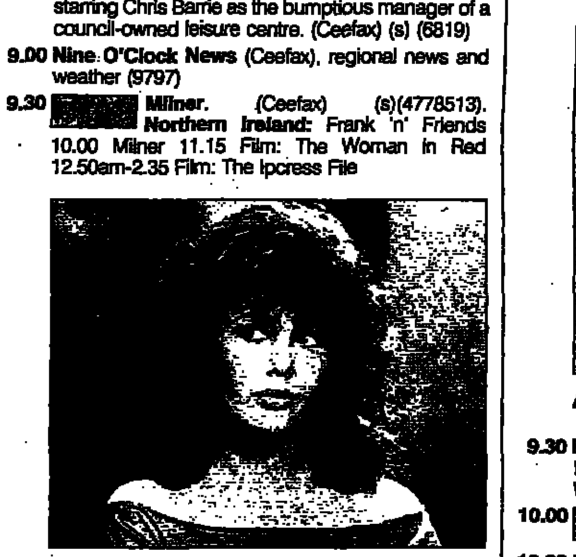
7.30 Watchdog. Consumer affairs investigations. (Ceefax) (s) (890)

8.00 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (4884)

8.30 The Brittas Empire. Last in the comedy series starring Chris Barrie as the bumptious manager of a council-owned leisure centre. (Ceefax) (s) (6819)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (9797)

9.30 CHOICE **Milner**. (Ceefax) (s)(4778513). **Northern Ireland:** Frank 'n' Friends 10.00 Milner 11.15 Film: The Woman in Red 12.50am-2.35 Film: The Ipcress File



Scarlet woman Kelly LeBrock (10.45pm)

10.45 FILM: The Woman in Red (1984) starring Gene Wilder and Kelly LeBrock. Romantic comedy about a happily married man who is swept off his feet when he meets a beautiful young "woman in red". Directed by Gene Wilder. (Ceefax) (6294906). **Wales:** Face Off 11.20 Film: The Woman in Red 12.45am-2.30 Film: The Ipcress File

12.10am FILM: The Ipcress File (1965) starring Michael Caine as the insubordinate agent employed to investigate the mystery brain drain among British scientists. Based on the novel by Len Deighton, directed by Sidney J. Furie. (Ceefax) (382759)

1.55 Weather (3773865). Ends at **2.00**

3.00-3.30 BBC Select: RCN Nursing Update (r) (46778)

BBC2

7.00 Tales of the Tooth Fairies (r) (s) (4038161) **7.05 Funnybones** (r) (s) (4037432) **7.10 Toxic Crusaders** (r) (2456155) **7.35 Record Breakers** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8149242)

8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (9460890)

8.15 Thunderbirds (r). (Ceefax) (5865109) **9.05 Crawshaw Paints on Holiday** in Majorca (8672567) **9.35 The Way of the Lakes** (r) (6612258) **10.00 Playdays** (r) (s) (5148180)

10.25 FILM: The Yearling (1946) starring Gregory Peck, Jane Wyman and Claude Jarman Jr. A weepie drama about the son of poor farmers who befriends a stray young deer. Directed by Clarence Brown. (Ceefax) (11030631)

12.30 Buckets and Spades. East Anglian seaside resorts (48890) **1.00 Fingermouse** (r) (44021616)

1.15 The Rich Traditions. The cuisine of The Netherlands (624180) **1.45 Making Tracks**. Series on the world's steam trains (r) (623451)

2.15 International Showjumping from the Grand Hall, Olympia (s). Includes **News** and weather at **3.00** (928513) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (4809529)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (819)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. Cuisine magazine (s) (703)

5.00 Esther. Studio discussion series (s) (6242)

5.30 Catchword. Paul Coia's word power game (s) (155)

6.00 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century (r) (854242)

6.50 Lucinda Lambton's Alphabet of Britain. *T is for Temples* (r). (Ceefax) (s) (562285)

7.00 The World at War (r). (Ceefax) (5600)

8.00 CHOICE **Horizon: Designer Wines**. (Ceefax) (s) (483074)

8.50 A Taste of the New World. Wine from Australia and New Zealand. (Ceefax) (714109)

9.00 Steptoe and Son (b/w). Classic rag-and-bone men comedy (r). (Ceefax) (3567)



Angus Deayton, left, takes on Dickens (9.30pm)

9.30 KYTV. A behind-the-scenes look at the making of KYTV's *Martin Chizzlenut*, starring Helen Atkinson Wood. (Ceefax) (62426)

10.00 CHOICE ***Picture This:* The Worst Job in the World**. (Ceefax) (s) (33426)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (602884)

11.15 International Showjumping (s) (947109)

12.00 FILM: Cutter's Way (1981) starring John Heard, Jeff Bridges and Lisa Eichhorn. Off-beat mystery about a small-time playboy who thinks he may have seen a murder and the Vietnam veteran who persuades him to become involved. Directed by Ivan Passer (384117) **1.45am Weather** (7639469)

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CHOICE



Mel Smith in the role of legal eagle (BBC1, 9.30pm)

Milner
BBC1, 9.30pm

A delectable comedy-drama stars Mel Smith as a dishevelled solicitor burdened with a dodgy client and a rocky marriage. The ingredients may sound hackneyed but thanks to a script by the reliable T. R. Bowen, which is light, witty and satisfyingly plotted, and effective playing by all concerned, they are mixed a treat. Smith's Stephen Milner has his professional integrity pushed to the limit when he acts for a property developer suspected of setting fire to his own premises. The ramifications include a threatened libel action and revelations by a hard-nosed reporter, while along the way the legal profession itself comes in for well-directed ribbing. This is only a pilot but there should be a series here for the taking.

Horizon: Designer Wines
BBC2, 8.00pm

The science series catches the seasonal mood with an edition on the revolution in British wine-buying. Not only has consumption trebled in the past ten years but sales of traditional European wines are declining at the expense of imports from Australia and California. The same thing is happening elsewhere. Among the results are a huge European wine lake and European Community payments to wine growers to tear up their vineyards. The film suggests that the Americans and Australians have succeeded by abandoning the old European ways and embracing the latest technology. Whisper it not to Château Lafite, but they have even dared to jettison oak barrels for aluminium containers and to use screw tops instead of corks.

Picture This: The Worst Job in the World
BBC2, 10.00pm

It is a simple enough idea for a television documentary but cleverly executed by the director Claudia Nye. She has collected people who declare that they positively love doing the sort of jobs that most of us might not even contemplate. Since each also says which job they would hate to do, the programme finds natural links. A prostitute enjoys whipping her clients but cannot abide cruelty to animals. This is the cue for the film's next featured occupation, slaughtering animals in an abattoir. A brief demonstration will be enough to turn most stomachs, while an item about a man who runs a maggot farm runs it close. Other trades featured are cleaning lavatories, undertaking and, perhaps more surprisingly, receptionist and teacher.

Desmond's
Channel 4, 8.30pm

After six series the Peckham barber's shop is shutting its doors for the last time. This double-length Christmas edition marks the end of a good-natured show it has been impossible not to enjoy. Black sitcoms tend either to make a point about race or try to make no point at all. The achievement of *Desmond's* is that while the characters have maintained their ethnic flavour, this has never been used didactically. Larger themes, of family and friends, have generally predominated. And so it is tonight, as one by one the children of Desmond (Norman Beaton) and Shirley announce that they have made other plans for Christmas. This was one of the last performances by Beaton, who died a few days ago. Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (6975180)

9.25 The New Adventures of He-Man (r) (8287180) **9.50 James Bond Junior** (r) (1013616)

10.15 Bananas in Pyjamas (3785664) **10.20 News** (Teletext) and weather (6935187) **10.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7385628)

10.30 FILM: Agatha Christie's The Man in the Brown Suit (1989). An American tourist becomes involved in the murder of a famous singer. Starring Rue McClanahan, Tony Randall and Edward Woodward (15830797) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (9480631)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (8059093)

12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (8961884)

1.25 Home and Away (Teletext) (53355600) **1.55 Make 'em Laugh**. A compilation of clips from classic comedy films (80976529)

2.25 A Country Practice (s) (92173109) **2.50 The Young Doctors** (1086631)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (6534109) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6526180)

3.30 FILM: Sinbad and the Eye of the Tiger (1977) starring Patrick Wayne as the dashing sailor who vows to help a beautiful princess. Directed by Sam Wanamaker (13630548)

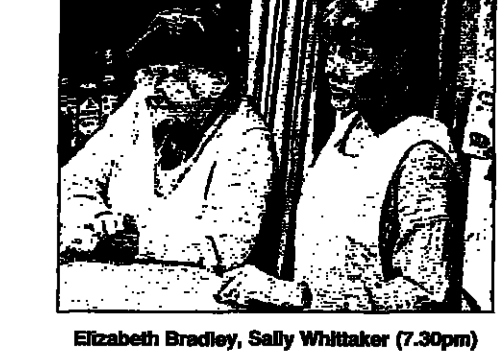
5.40 News (Teletext) and weather (419161)

5.55 Your Shout. Members of the public air their views (868529)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (722)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (154)

7.00 Wish You Were Here . . . ? Britt Ekland and her son go on safari in Kenya; and Judith Chalmers rediscovers the pleasures of a traditional British seaside holiday in Blackpool. (Teletext) (s) (6432)



Elizabeth Bradley, Sally Whittaker (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. Sally (Sally Whittaker) starts a part-time job at the corner shop, thanks to Maud (Elizabeth Bradley). (Teletext) (s) (258)

8.00 FILM: The Rocketeer (1991) starring Bill Campbell as a young pilot in 1930s Hollywood who discovers a mysterious rocket-powered backpack and becomes a superhero. With Timothy Dalton. Directed by Joe Johnston. (Teletext) (5890)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (26180)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (270364)

10.40 The London Comedy Festival. The second one-hour special from the first festival staged at the Riverside Studios in Hammersmith. With Craig Ferguson, Lee Evans and Greg Proops (s) (172548)

11.40 The Equalizer with Edward Woodward (r) (381529)

12.40am The Little Picture Show with Mariella Frostrup (6664440)

1.40 Endsleigh League Football Extra (6913933)

2.25 FILM: Lola (1986) starring Angela Molina as a factory worker who leaves her sadistic boyfriend. Directed by Bigas Luna (867827)

4.10 Profile with Bob Geldof (r) (s) (70136117)

4.30 Videofashion (32575)

5.00 Hollywood Report (r) (s) (97914)

5.30 ITN Morning News (70198). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Terrytoons. Classic cartoon series (7077513)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (62529)

9.00 Pugwall (r) (10529) **9.30 Spacecats** (r) (66242)

10.00 Prostars (r) (1889890) **10.20 For Better For Worse**. A family outing suddenly looks up for Michael with the arrival of a girl (r) (5144364)

10.50 The Adventures of Super Mario Brothers (r) (9482548) **11.05 Tintin** (r) (9335277) **11.30 Kelly** (r) (18797)

12.30pm Sesame Street. Entertaining early-learning series for the very young. With guest Patti LaBelle (89364) **1.30 Up on the House Top**. Animated tale (r) (80982180)

1.55 FILM: I'll Be Home for Christmas (1988). Sentimental drama set in a small American town during the Second World War where Hal Holbrook and Eva Marie Saint await the arrival of their two sons and daughter. Directed by Marvin J. Chomsky (98911703)

3.45 Air Globes. Colombian short film (r) (2862838)

4.00 Garden Club. Roy Lancaster and Matthew Biggs review some of the tips they picked up over the most recent series (r). (Teletext) (987)

4.30 Fifteen to One. William G. Stewart fires the questions in this knockout general knowledge quiz. (Teletext) (s) (971)

5.00 The Late Late Show. Dublin's music and topical chat show hosted by Gayle Byrne (s) (3345)

6.00 Hangin' with Mr Cooper. American student comedy series. (Teletext) (s) (384)

6.30 The Cosby Show. Cliff wants to give Clair a 27th-anniversary to remember (r). (Teletext) (616)

7.00 Channel 4 News and weather (327548)

7.50 Black Christmas: Shooting Stars. A regular slot over the Christmas period with performances by some of the most talented figures from jazz, opera and stage. Tonight, soprano Maureen Brathwaite (s) (583906)

8.00 Wildshots: Fields of View. Landscape photographer Charlie Waite attempts to reinterpret Constable's *The Haywain* (r). (Teletext) (s) (3722)



The late Norman Beaton (Desmond's, 8.30pm)

8.30 CHOICE **Black Christmas: Desmond's**. (Teletext) (s) (19093)

9.30 Beaton But Unbowed — A Tribute to Norman Beaton. Darcus Howe presents a tribute to the star of Desmond's, who died last week (662068)

9.50 Black Christmas: Shooting Stars. Actress Cathy Tyson gives a reading and Will Gaines demonstrates his jazz-tap skills (s) (373277)

10.00 I'll Fly Away. Drama series set in the American Deep South. Starring Sam Waterston. (Teletext) (s) (199180)

10.55 The American Football Big Match (s) (1523451)

12.15am Black Christmas: All Junglists! A London Somet'ing Dis. Programme tracing the origins of the latest underground dance music (23846)

12.45 FILM: Pink Floyd — The Wall (1982) starring Bob Geldof as the rock star at the centre of the story. With Bob Hoskins. Directed by Alan Parker (803952). Ends at **2.25**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: **9.50am** C.O.P.S (1013616) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (3785664) **10.30** The Secret of Nimh (57847722) **12.05pm-12.20** Warner Cartoon (9729819) **12.20-12.30** Anglia News (9480631) **1.55** A Country Practice (35537345) **2.20** Houseparty (92158890) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (1086631) **3.30** Disney's The Shaggy DA (907635) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (3542172) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (471068) **10.40** Hear, Hear - The Quiz of the Year (465884) **11.10** Bachelor Party (642600) **1.05am** Endsleigh League Football (1857827) **1.45** Sport AM (970556) **2.45** Best and Worst of Sport (1180049) **3.35** The Beat (8283204) **4.30** Jobfinder (32575) **5.00-5.30** Top Ten (97914)

CENTRAL

As London except: **9.50** C.O.P.S (1013616) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (3785664) **1.55** A Country Practice (35537345) **2.20** Yan Can Cook (92158890) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (1086631) **3.30** Disney's The Richest Cat in the World (907635) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (3542172) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (471068) **10.40** Millionaires (465884) **11.10-12.40pm** My Man Adam (364722) **4.10am** Jobfinder (8405001) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (9519440)

GRANADA

As London except: **9.50** C.O.P.S (1013616) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (3785664) **10.30** Agatha Christie's The Man in the Brown Suit (15830797) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (9480631) **12.55** Shortland Street (8961884) **1.25** Home and Away (27219548) **1.50-3.20** The Outside Woman (2171677) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (3542172) **6.25** Granada Tonight (471068) **7.00-7.30** Wish You Were Here...? (6432) **8.00-10.00** The Rocketeer (5890) **10.40** Stephen King's The Car (55371180) **12.30am** Strategy and Tactics - The Bobby Rahal Story (1652488) **1.05** Endsleigh League Football Extra (1857827) **1.45** Sport AM (970556) **2.45** Best and Worst of Sport (1180049) **3.35** The Beat (8283204) **4.30** Jobfinder (32575) **5.00-5.30** America's Top Ten (97914)

HTV WEST

As London except: **9.50** C.O.P.S (1013616) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (3785664) **1.55-3.20** Little Jungle Boy (7226726) **3.30** Disney's The Shaggy DA (907635) **5.10-5.40** What's My Line? (3542172) **5.55** Home and Away (912109) **6.25-7.00** HTV News (471068) **10.40** A Licence to Live (172548) **11.40** The Wurzels (784797) **12.10am** Magnum (2974865) **1.05** Endsleigh League Football Extra (1857827) **1.45** Sport AM (970556) **2.45** Best and Worst of Sport (1180049) **3.35** The Beat (8283204) **4.30** Jobfinder (32575) **5.00-5.30** America's Top Ten (97914)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: **5.10-5.40** Movies, Games and Videos (3542172) **6.25-7.00** Wales Tonight (471068) **10.40-12.10pm** Rebel Rousers (5014513)

MERIDIAN

As London except: **9.50am** C.O.P.S (1013616) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (3785664) **10.30** The Secret of Nimh (57847722) **12.05pm-12.20** Warner Cartoon (9729819) **1.55** A Country Practice (35537345) **2.20** Houseparty (92158890) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (1086631) **3.30** Disney's The Shaggy DA (907635) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (3542172) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (722) **6.30-7.00** Spirit of the South Down by the River (154) **10.40** Tarrant's TV Weekly (465884) **11.10** Magnum (595155) **12.05am-12.40** Sledge Hammer (7245865) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (97914)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: **9.50** C.O.P.S (1013616) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (3785664) **1.55** Gardening Time (80976529) **2.25-2.55** The Young Doctors (92157161) **3.30** Disney's The Shaggy DA (907635) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (3542172) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (50635) **10.40** Special Report (465884) **11.10** Some Girls (642600) **1.05am** Endsleigh League Football Extra (1857827) **1.45** Sport AM (970556) **2.45** Best and Worst of Sport (1180049) **3.35** The Beat (8283204) **4.30** Jobfinder (32575) **5.00-5.30** America's Top Ten (97914)

S4C

Starts: **7.00** The Big Breakfast (62529) **9.00** Pugwall (8273987) **9.25** Space Cats (8285722) **9.50** Pro-stars (8617703) **10.20** For Better For Worse (5144364) **10.50** Super Mario Brothers (9492548) **11.05** Tintin (9335277) **11.30** Kelly (6800) **12.00pm** Right To Reply (23093) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (40258) **1.00** Trumpton/Little Bim (65616) **1.30** Crawshaw Paints Acrylics (80982180) **1.55** I'll Be Home For Christmas (98911703) **3.45** The Ball Of Wool (2862838) **4.00** Waterways (987) **4.30** Batman (971) **5.00** 5 Pump (9518548) **5.15** 5 Pump (3799567) **5.30** Fifteen To One (451) **6.00** Newyddion (241838) **6.20** Heno (587819) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (4074) **7.30** Sgorio (28277) **8.30** Newyddion (9529) **9.00** Y Byd Ar Bedwar (8635) **9.30** Roseanne (53722) **10.00** I'll Fly Away (199180) **10.55** The American Football Big Match (2997068) **12.15am** Desmond's (23846) **12.45** Pink Floyd: The Wall (803952)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (31008616) **8.45** Cartoons (5814513) **9.30** Card Sharks (97180) **10.00** Concentration (1759838) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (7269819) **10.30** Candid Camera (87451) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (68118) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (58703) **12.30pm** E Street (82628) **1.00** Falcon Crest (96451) **2.00** The Pirate (80451) **3.00** The Dukes of Hazzard (3075364) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (5350432) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (5155) **6.00** Gamesworld (1258) **6.30** Blockbusters (5838) **7.00** E Street (8884) **7.30** M*A*S*H (4722) **8.00** Adventures of Brisco County Jr (48838) **9.00** Melrose Place (28074) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (21161) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (488426) **11.45** Chances (492838) **12.45am** Barney Miller (66575) **1.15-1.45** Night Court (63488)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (7805155) **9.10** Worldwide (6352529) **10.10** CBS 60 Minutes (1840857) **1.30pm** CBS News (68722) **2.30** Roving Report (19345) **3.30** Book Show (3816) **4.00** News/Business (16797) **5.00** Live at Five (3797) **6.30** Talkback (17600) **8.00** News/Business (7941906) **9.10** CBS 60 Minutes (11948797) **11.30** CBS News (84513) **12.30am** ABC News (95117) **1.30** Talkback (50391) **2.30** Roving Report (97469) **3.30** The Book Show (92914) **4.30** CBS News (88682) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (10730)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am **Showcase** (6388074) **10.00** **Dreamchild** (1985) (82664) **12.00** **Valley of the Gwangi** (1969) (98426) **2.00pm** **The Further Adventures of the Wilderness Family** (1978) (49513) **4.00** **California Man** (1992) (3987) **6.00** **Leap of Faith** (1992) (32277) **8.00** **The Power of One** (1992) (36768074) **10.10** **In the Company of Darkness** (1992) (608906) **11.45** **The Fear Inside** (1992) (541890) **1.30am** **Report to the Commissioner** (1975) (765594) **3.15** **The Opposite Sex** (1992) (135681) **4.45-6.00** **California Man** (1992): As 4pm (8218594)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm **I Confess** (1953) (29695) **8.00** **The Island of Dr Moreau** (1977) (79190) **10.00-12.00** **Children of the Corn** (1984) (81093)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am **The Lemon Drop Kid** (1951) (47068) **8.00** **The Man in the Iron Mask** (1990) (64155) **9.00** **The New Adventures of Robin Hood: Cartoon version** (43567) **10.00** **Forever Young** (1992) (62646) **12.00** **Teacher's Pet** (1958) (98068) **2.00pm** **Tarzan and the Mermaids** (1948) (8489093) **3.15** **The New Adventures of William Tell**: Animated version (3087109) **4.10** **The Man in the Iron Mask** (1990): As 8am (8295155) **5.00** **The New Adventures of Robin Hood**: As 9am (1298838) **5.55** **Just Ask for Diamond** (1988) (86457451) **7.30** **UK Top Ten** (7432) **8.00** **Forever Young** (1992): As 10am (35364) **10.00** **Body Language** (1992) (517068) **11.35** **Fade to Black** (1992) (144180) **1.00am** **Critters 4** (1992) (319420) **2.35** **Tales of Erotica** (1991) (385933) **4.25-6.00** **Just Ask for Diamond** (1988): As 5.55pm (824933)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Watersports (94364) **8.00** World Sport Special (75513) **8.30** Muscle Night (71502) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (97277) **10.00** Cricket: MCC v Holdenshill (83242) **11.00** Boxing Documentary (56906) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (78600) **12.30pm** Super Sunday: Chelsea v Liverpool (18838) **2.30** One to One (1277) **3.00** Billiards (37258) **4.00** World of Speed (2529) **4.30** Snowboard Tour (8513) **5.00** WWF Mania (9187) **6.00** Soccer News (930345) **6.15** Sports Classics (855600) **6.30** Fishing the West (3258) **7.00** Football, Live: Southampton v Aston Villa (5251490) **11.00** Soccer News (885432) **11.15** Fishing the West (420451) **11.45** Sports Classics (888890) **12.00-2.00am** Football: Southampton v Aston Villa (77198)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Step Aerobics (69426) **8.00** Golf (80161) **9.00** Equestrianism (83345) **10.00** Figure Skating (81838) **11.00** Skiing (59703) **1.00pm** Ski Jumping (81616) **2.00** Karting (24109) **3.30** Nascar (82242) **4.30** Samba Football (76838) **6.30** News (5426) **7.00** Speedworld (60155) **9.00** Football (31074) **10.30** Boxing (13155) **11.30** Eurogolf (22797) **12.30-1.00am** News (37933)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (1899432) **8.30** Peyton Place (1869703) **9.00** As the World Turns (8053722) **10.00** Guiding Light (8062884) **11.00-12.00** Another World (8155548)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Discover Your World (1899819) **12.30pm** Kids Down Under (7458548) **1.00** Ski Perfect (8159364) **1.30** Cooking in France (7457819) **2.00** American Adventurer (4499563) **3.00** Discover Your World (4083906) **3.30** The Way of Life (3149838) **4.00** Ski Perfect (3128345) **4.30** Kids Down Under (3124529) **5.00** Norfolk (4088451) **5.30** Cooking in France (3148109) **6.00** Getaway (3138722) **6.30** American Adventurer (3129074) **7.00** Discover Your World (4075987) **7.30** Around the World (3125258) **8.00** Travel Guide (7482432) **9.00** Getaway (9432635) **9.30** Thailand (7365884) **10.00** Golf in Paradise (1890548) **10.30** Cooking in France (1703068) **11.00** Australia (9437180) **11.30-12.00** The Way of Life (4348890)



Montgomery Clift in Hitchcock's *I Confess* (Movies Gold, 6.00pm)

TLC

9.00am Painting (3682797) **9.30** Madeleine Cooks (4848277) **10.00** Private Lives (8572074) **10.30** Only Human (7679513) **11.30** He's My Brother (6171971) **12.00** A Change of Mind (4558600) **1.00pm** Madeleine Cooks (6063664) **1.30** The Joy of Painting (4641364) **2.00** Talking Heads (6928703) **2.30** The Sick Kids (4368364) **3.00** Scotland's Larder (6945838) **3.30-4.00** Local Heroes (4370109)

UK GOLD

7.00am The Sullivans (3813141) **7.30** Neighbours (5818726) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (3767432) **8.30** EastEnders (3768703) **9.00** The Bill (3684155) **9.30** Flesh and Blood (8243819) **10.30** Juliet Bravo (46938364) **11.35** The Sullivans (11350635) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (3777819) **12.30pm** Neighbours (4644451) **1.00** EastEnders (4263682) **1.30** The Bill (4643722) **2.00** George and Mildred (6928161) **2.30** Rings on Their Fingers (4360722) **3.00** Knots Landing (8257345) **4.05** Dynasty (6269180) **5.00** Every Second Counts (8631277) **5.35** Top of the Pops (8746074) **5.55** Terry and June (8276068) **6.30** EastEnders (4352703) **7.00** The Two Ronnies (5099426) **8.00** Life Without George (6842797) **8.30** Rings on Their Fingers (8927432) **9.00** Tenko (5191838) **10.00** The Bill (3778548) **10.30** Top of the Pops (6423221) **11.10** Dr Who (2696258) **11.40** Squadron (3399567) **1.40am** Scotch 'n' Wry (3605556) **2.15** Shopping at Night (79040594)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Best of Droibse Time (98567) **7.00** Ratkan III (5203906) **7.15** Head to Head in 3D (3204819) **7.25** Garfield and Friends (7299513) **7.55** Saved by the Bell (8851068) **8.30** Super Mario Brothers (48744) **9.00** Zoo (94616) **9.30** Cult Cartoons (20529) **10.00** Dreamstone (29451) **10.30** Round the Twist (10600) **11.00** Eek the Cat (83451) **11.30** Beekman's World (84180) **12.00** Stunt Dawgs (48780) **12.30pm** Bots Master (24345) **1.00** Pugwall's Summer (58451) **1.30** Degrassi Junior High (23616) **2.00** Ghostbusters (7364) **2.30** SuperDave (6987) **3.00** Tic Tac Toons (8956635) **3.15** Bobby's World (608277) **3.45** Head to Head in 3D (3763600) **4.00** The Bots Master (6857) **4.30-5.00** Saved by the Bell (9451)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nick's Christmas Cracker (59093) **7.30** Denver The Last Dinosaur (65600) **8.00** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (73155) **8.30** Rocko (72426) **9.00** Nick's Christmas Pick (69906) **9.30** Clarissa (95819) **10.00** Grimmy (32884) **10.30** Carmen Sandiego (58890) **11.00** Killer Tomatoes (50155) **11.30** Ren and Stimpy (51884) **12.00** Pee-Wee (76242) **12.30pm** Galaxy High School (89635) **1.00** Doug (58364) **1.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (98906) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (4180) **2.30** Speed Racer (9819) **3.00** Where on Earth is Carmen Sandiego (6667) **3.30** Hey Dude! (4364) **4.00** Nick's Christmas Pick (3141) **4.30** Doug (6155) **5.00** Clarissa (4567) **6.00** Grimmy (9708) **6.30** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (1549)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm From Monkeys to Apes (4359616) **4.30** Wild Sanctuaries (4275600) **5.00** China — The Unveiled Highlands (6929890) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (4554884) **7.00** Ambulance! (6937819) **7.30** Treasure Islands (4356529) **8.00** Wildside (5179616) **9.00** Stargazers (5182180) **10.00** Shark Wars (5192567) **11.00** Special Forces (6268451) **11.30-12.00** Crime Stalker (8578258)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Terror of the Bloodhunters (1962) (5512068) **1.30** The Partridge Family (4638890) **2.00** The Avengers (6577529) **3.00** My Three Sons (6932384) **3.30** The Beverly Hillbillies (4367635) **4.00** FILM: Simon and Laura (1955) (6936180) **6.00** The Protectors (4363819) **6.30** Cannon (4098884) **7.30** The Invisible Man (4270155) **8.00** The Avengers (5093242) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (6250432) **9.30** FILM: Garbo Talks (1984) (9592906) **11.30-12.00** It's Garry Shandling's Show (8492884)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (2002722) **7.00** Living Highlights (8600432) **8.00** OK2 Talk Feelings (1129884) **8.15** Yoga (1215635) **8.30** Women Mean Business (2473242) **9.00** Masterchef (7934242) **9.35** Definition (6808906) **10.00** Trivia Trap (9559109) **10.30** Susan Powter (2586906) **11.00** Young and Restless (8618616) **12.00** Through the Looking Glass (1166838) **12.35pm** Kilroy (9452093) **1.30** On the House (7477513) **2.00** Agony Hour (9550838) **3.00** Living (7920890) **3.45** Gladrags (17691838) **4.00** Infatuation UK (5947819) **4.30** Definition (18864616) **4.55** A Taste of Japan (4014838) **5.30** Kate and Allie (5854155) **6.00** Material World (5851068) **6.30** Mr and Mrs (5948548) **7.00** Living (9388432) **8.00** Young and Restless (9395180) **9.00** FILM: Prime Suspect (1982) (90710890) **10.55** Short Shorts (9707600) **11.00** Susan Powter (1736364) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (9548093)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Tintin (9616) **5.30** Moonmouth (94635) **6.30** Through The Keyhole (5068) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (1180) **7.30** The Wonder Years (1780) **8.00** Road to Avonlea (15548) **9.00** Moonlighting (22884) **10.00** Catchphrase (15109) **10.30** Tintin (91529) **11.00** Lou Grant (62600) **12.00** Rhoda (63097) **12.30pm** Big Brother Jake (84665) **1.00** GP (20665) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (39001) **2.00** Moonlighting (26681) **3.00** Lou Grant (26730) **4.00** Rhoda (76049) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (59630)

MTV

5.00am Wildside (50468) **6.30** The Grind (14529) **7.00** Wildside (38722) **8.00** VJ Ingo (432074) **11.00** Soul (56093) **12.00** Greatest Hits (45838) **1.00pm** The Afternoon Mix (234109) **3.30** Coca-Cola Report (7464613) **3.45** Cinematic (2414118) **4.00** News (6039277) **4.15** 3 from 1 (6949600) **4.30** Dial MTV (8109) **5.00** Hit List UK (97703) **7.00** Greatest Hits (79118) **8.00** Unplugged with Rod Stewart (17906) **9.00** The Real World 3 (72345) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (46567) **10.00** Coca-Cola Report (231987) **10.15** Cinematic (156242) **10.30** News (346154) **10.45** 3 from 1 (396859) **11.00** The End? (67838) **1.00am** Soul (39662) **2.00** The Grind (56827) **2.30** Night Videos (575643)

VH-1

7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (8158635) **9.00** Café (8457242) **12.00** The Bridge (3427426) **1.30pm** Ten of the Best: Guest — INXS (9940074) **2.30** Heart and Soul (9625242) **3.30** Into the Music (2194631) **6.00** Prime Cuts (7362797) **7.00** For You (7302242) **8.00** Album Chart: All-Time Hits (7495906) **10.00** The Bridge (8960068) **11.30** VH-1 to 1 (4357548) **12.00** The Nightfly (9301001) **2.00am** Prime Cuts (4807778) **3.00** Album Chart (9889556) **5.00** Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE

Country music from 6am to 7pm including **5.00pm** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00** Big Ticket

TV ASIA

6.00am Persian Dawn (85093) **7.00** Asian Morning (30242) **8.30** Buniyaad (90890) **9.00** Pakistani FILM (517600) **12.00** Ghar (30906) **1.00pm** Pakistani Drama (52277) **1.30** Nauroema (47242) **2.00** Hindi FILM (981136) **5.00** TVA and You (2242) **5.30-6.00** Buniyaad (4529) **7.00** Pakistani Drama (84890) **8.00** News (1616) **8.30** India Business Report (3451) **9.00** Hindi FILM (825635) **12.00** Asian Morning (339827) **1.35am** Sight and Sound (31403372)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
Theme: Amazing Adventures
7.00pm Challenge to Lassie (1949) (63283695) **8.25 Flipper's New Adventure** (1964) (99640364)
Theme: Movin' and a-Groovin'
10.10 When the Boys Meet the Girls (1965) (78358074) **12.00 Mrs Brown, You've Got a Lovely Daughter** (1968) (75721551) **1.45am Hold On** (1966) (95116627) **3.25-5.00 Get Yourself a College Girl** (1964) (75469759)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

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BUSINESS

NEW YEAR REMEDY 38
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MONDAY DECEMBER 19 1994

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK



Ross Goobey: intervention

Last-ditch bid to block ousting of Maurice Saatchi fails

By Melvyn Marckus
City Editor

SAATCHI & Saatchi's directors, led by Charles Scott, chief executive, refused to be swayed over the removal of Maurice Saatchi despite an eleventh-hour intervention by Alastair Ross Goobey, investment chief of Postel, the £20 billion Post Office/British Telecom pension fund.

Mr Ross Goobey telephoned Mr Saatchi and Sir Peter Walters on Friday morning, before the board's eight-hour meeting, to convey Postel's opposition to the demand by David Herro, a Chicago fund manager, for Mr Saatchi's resignation.

Mr Ross Goobey is understood to have told Sir Peter that support for any share option incentive for Mr Saatchi would be forthcoming only if the proposals fully complied with National Association of Pension Funds guidelines. Provided that this condition was met, Postel supported Mr Saatchi's ongoing role as chairman and would have voted accordingly if Mr Herro had called for an extraordinary meeting.

Mr Saatchi told *The Times* yesterday that he was still considering whether to start a new advertising agency. He said: "I am thinking very carefully and weighing up the options."

Mr Saatchi is discussing the situation with his brother, Charles, who left Saatchi & Saatchi's boardroom a year ago.

Mr Saatchi said yesterday that several bankers had already contacted him with offers of "serious money" to fund a breakaway advertising boutique. He admitted that he was torn between the very tempting attractions of starting up a new agency and his reluctance to sever links with a firm to which he is still "very attached".

Mr Saatchi has been offered the title of joint president of the holding company, which is to have a name change, and chairmanship of the operating subsidiary, Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising Worldwide. Proposed compensation for Mr Saatchi's loss of office is said to be about £600,000 — three times his reduced annual salary.

Saatchi & Saatchi's share price, off 2p at 154p last week, may come under pressure this morning as fears mount that major clients such as British Airways, Mars and Mirror Group Newspapers — all of whom warned Mr Scott and his colleagues not to oust Mr Saatchi — will eventually withdraw their accounts.

Harris Associates of Chicago, spearheaded by Mr Herro, holds just under 10 per cent of Saatchi & Saatchi's equity but claims to speak for more than 40 per cent of shareholders, including a 5 per cent block held by M&G. Certain City institutions believe that Mr Herro has effectively secured back-door control. SG Warburg, Saatchi & Saatchi's merchant bank, strongly advised directors such as Sir Peter and Sir Paul Girolami — once perceived as supporters of Mr Saatchi — to agree to his leaving.

Exchange to take stronger grip on firms

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

THE Stock Exchange is to take direct control of the supervision of its member firms as part of an attempt to boost its standing in the City.

For the past seven years, since the implementation of the Financial Services Act, the Exchange has subcontracted the job of inspecting member firms to the Securities and Futures Authority, the regulatory body for securities firms. Since then, the Exchange has seen its power base gradually being eroded.

The Exchange's supervisory role was severely reduced under the Financial Services Act when the SFA took on the function of surveillance of capital adequacy and conduct of business. The SFA also took over its job of authorising member firms. The Exchange retained responsibility for ensuring that its dealing rules are adhered to, and it supervises market etiquette.

Its supervision department, headed by Dan Sheridan, has decided to send its own staff in to inspect the books of member firms for evidence of market manipulation. The head of compliance at one firm said the Exchange's view is that it can do better itself and that "it needs to be seen to be active".

A spokeswoman for the Exchange said the move "is a basic reassessment of how things have been going ... Regulation has to evolve and change to be sensitive to the fact that international markets change".

Since 1986 there had been two lots of revisions to the Exchange's rule book, she said. In this changing regulatory environment, the Exchange came to an arrangement with the SFA that it should take back the role of inspecting member firms, according to the spokeswoman.

The handover will be gradual, taking between 15 and 18 months. The spokeswoman said the Exchange had started to do a number of inspections to coincide with SFA visits to examine what key issues it should be looking at in future visits. It has decided initially to concentate its inspections on stock borrowing and lending, inter-dealer brokers and proprietary trading issues.

The inspection visits are in addition to the individual meetings called by the Exchange with its member firms to discuss specific issues, and the quarterly meetings it holds with groups of market-makers and half-yearly meetings with brokers.

In recognition of the need to carve out a role for itself, the Exchange appointed Fields Wicker-Miurin, an American consultant, to the new post of director of strategy and finance in August.

The introduction of the Crest paperless share settlement system in 18 months' time will dramatically reduce the Exchange's settlement role. The Bank of England has been overseeing Crest since the collapse of the Exchange's more complex Taurus share settlement system last year.

The Exchange has been investigating what sort of settlement role it could have once Crest goes live. One option is for it to set up a nominee company to hold the records of retail investors.

Rolls-Royce cars to use BMW engines

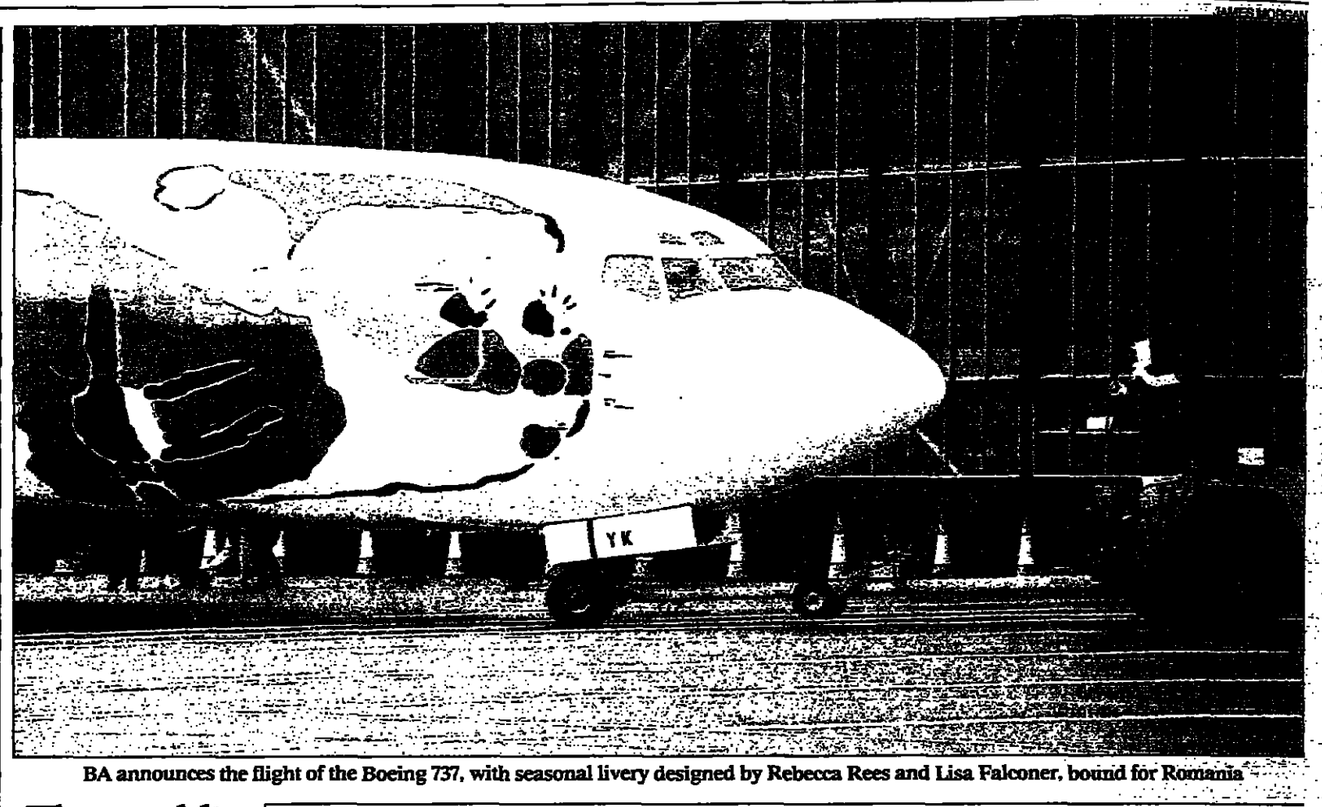
By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

ROLLS-ROYCE, the last wholly owned major British carmaker, will announce today that the next generation of engines for its saloons will be made by BMW.

The £250 million deal will give Rolls access to the latest technology but will also provide the German company with another foothold in the British motor industry. In January, BMW bought Rover for £800 million from British Aerospace. Now Bernd Pischetsrieder, BMW's ambitious chairman, is thought to have outbid Mercedes-Benz, his German rival, for a partnership with one of the most famous motoring brand names in the world.

Sir Colin Chandler, chief executive of Vickers, which owns Rolls-Royce, is expected to confirm the link today. BMW is thought to have been chosen because it has the V8 engine technology most closely resembling Rolls-Royce's own line-up. However, Rolls-Royce's 6.7 litre engines are based on designs nearly three decades old. BMW will provide four and five litre engines just as powerful.

Rolls-Royce is expected to make about £12 million profit this year and twice as much next.



BA announces the flight of the Boeing 737, with seasonal livery designed by Rebecca Rees and Lisa Falconer, bound for Romania

The world's most festive airline

BRITISH AIRWAYS yesterday revealed the Christmas livery for one of its Boeing 737s, designed by winners in a competition organised by the airline.

On one side is a giant Father Christmas flying without any reindeers, the creation of 10-year-old Rebecca Rees of Swansea. On the other, he is flying through a winter snowscape, as portrayed by Lisa Falconer of Aberdeen.

The aircraft will operate its first scheduled service to Bucharest from Gatwick, taking gifts and supplies to needy children in Romania. It will then resume normal services throughout the UK, including Glasgow, Manchester and Belfast.

About 17,000 entries were submitted for the competition. Other winning entries are on display at Terminal 1 at Heathrow.

Trafalgar bid expected today

By Patricia Tehan

TRAFALGAR House is today expected to launch a £1.25 billion hostile bid for Northern Electric, the north-east England regional electricity company.

Trafalgar and its advisers, Swiss Bank Corporation and Robert Fleming, met last night to discuss the financing of the bid.

The company is believed to have decided against a rights issue — which would be seen as too soon after the £204 million rights issue in March last year, and the emergency £404 million cash call at the end of 1993. Instead, it is likely to opt for an offer of convertible preference shares with a cash alternative.

Hongkong Land, which owns 25 per cent of Trafalgar, will be key to the offer. However, the underwriting is likely to be broadly based and Hongkong Land must avoid lifting its shareholding in Trafalgar above 29.9 per cent, which would trigger a full offer.

There was an outside possibility that, because of the complicating factor of the Government's golden share veto on takeovers of regional electricity companies, which expires on March 31, a bid would be delayed until after Christmas.

However, since Trafalgar was forced by the Takeover Panel to signal its intention to bid last week, it is keen to get the details out quickly.

The bid premium is said to be already built into Northern shares, which had risen 100p last week to 1,010p before the Takeover Panel stepped in. On Friday, the shares closed at 985p.

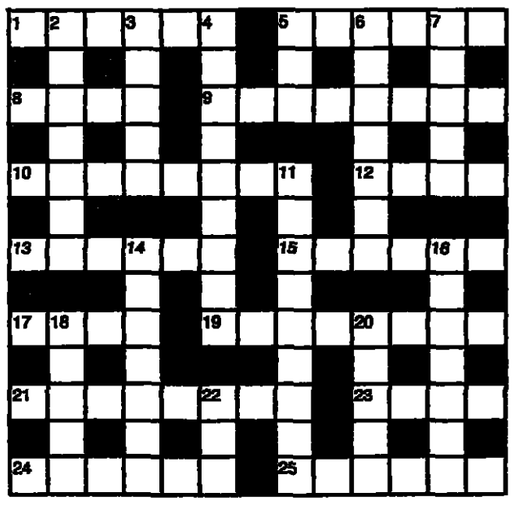
The attraction of Northern for Trafalgar is its strong cash flow and its long-term earnings potential.

However, Northern has indicated that it intends to reject the bid. A spokesman said yesterday: "We are ready and we think that the spotlight which will be put on us will benefit us. It will focus on our merits. We cannot see anything that Trafalgar brings to the party, but we relish the chance to prove ourselves."

The end of the Government's golden share in the regional electricity companies in March is thought likely to encourage more bids and friendly mergers.

Northern has issued Section 212 notices to force Trafalgar, its advisers and other interested parties to disclose whether they have bought shares. It has not yet received the information requested.

Companies, page 36



CROSSWORD BOOKS (Reduced postage until Dec 31): **The Times Concise Crosswords** (Books 1 & 2 £5.49 each), Books 3,4,5,6 & NEW Book 7 £4.00 each. **The Times Jumbo Crosswords**: (Books 1 & 2 £5.49 each, Concise Book £5.49). **The Times Crosswords**: (Books 1 to 13 £4.49 each). Books 14 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.00 each. **The Sunday Times Crosswords** — (Book 1 £4.49), Books 10,11,12 & NEW Book 13 £4.00 each. **The Sunday Times Concise**: Books 1,2,3 £4.00 each. Except the items in brackets, software available for all titles for IBM PCs and Acorn computers — Price £14.95 each — also The Times Computer Crosswords Vols 1 to 6, The Sunday Times Vols 1 to 6 and The Times Jubilee Edition. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to *Ahom Ltd*, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 348

ACROSS
1 Ring discordantly; jar (6)
5 Virgin (6)
8 Threesome (4)
9 Settlement such as Soweto (8)
10 Indirect persuasion (to buy) (4,4)
12 Instrument; joint sealant (4)
13 Complete (6)
15 Chevron indicating rank (6)
17 Thin strand; flock of snipe (4)
19 Of building; type of geolog. plate (8)
21 German housewife (8)
23 Wheedle; sort of cable (4)
24 Decide to be less harsh (6)
25 John —; — Waugh, writers (6)

DOWN
2 Deductive, requiring no evidence (1,6)
3 Smugly advertise one's good fortune (5)
4 Foot-crossing ballet leap (9)
5 Voracious mouth (3)
6 Narrow-minded (7)
7 Throw out (of home) (5)
11 Hopeless enterprise (4,5)
14 Deadlock (7)
16 Seclusion, secrecy (7)
18 Picture, representation (5)
20 At the prearranged signal (2,3)
22 Rodent; deserter (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 347

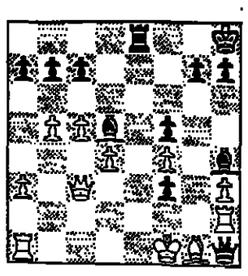
ACROSS: 1 Vapid 4 Sell-out 8 Taunted 9 Wiles 10 Elgar 11 Choppy 13 Uproot 15 Snivel 18 Carver 20 Forum 22 Osier 23 Monsoon 24 Pretext 25 Lasso

DOWN: 1 Vitreous 2 Plunger 3 Deter 4 Seduce 5 Lowdown 6 Orlop 7 Task 12 Flamingo 14 Obverse 16 Various 17 Prompt 19 Aside 20 Final 21 Coop

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Wjakhireff - Alekhine, Russia 1908. Can you spot Black's immediate win?



Solution, page 37
Raymond Keene, page 6

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

TOOT
a. A chimpanzee's rear
b. A snort of cocaine
c. A shirt sleeve

COLETA
a. A pigtail
b. A rice
c. A sieve

DUMPOKED
a. Ridiculed
b. Kneaded
c. Steamed

FEIS
a. An assembly of kings
b. A feathered hat
c. A laird's seat

Answers on page 37

New year job hopes 'brightest since 1990'

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

NEW YEAR job prospects are the brightest since 1990, figures out today suggest — but a separate survey shows job insecurity among white-collar workers is higher than last Christmas.

The Government last week announced a further fall in unemployment and the first rise in jobs for five years. Reinforcing that, data from Manpower, the temporary employment agency, suggests that employer confidence about jobs is at its highest for five years. In a survey taken among 2,000 employers, Manpower says that 18 per cent forecast a rise in jobs in the first quarter of 1995, and 16 per cent expected a loss.

Although the resulting balance of 2 per cent is down on the 14 per cent for the final quarter of this year, the first months of the year are not a peak hiring period and a positive balance is the best first-quarter figure since the recession began. It contrasts with a decline in jobs signalled by a balance of -3 per cent a year ago for the first quarter of 1994.

However, MSF, the general technical union, suggests in a survey of its representatives in 426 workplaces that fears over job security have increased. Half say that jobs in their workplaces are less secure than 12 months ago.



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